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**BASIC RADIO PROPAGATION PREDICTIONS
FOR APRIL 1947
THREE MONTHS IN ADVANCE**

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**NATIONAL BUREAU OF STANDARDS
CENTRAL RADIO PROPAGATION LABORATORY**

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BASIC RADIO PROPAGATION PREDICTIONS FOR APRIL 1947 THREE MONTHS IN ADVANCE

Comments are invited from users of this report as to the accuracy of predictions when applied to the solution of specific radio propagation problems. Such comments or queries concerning radio propagation should be addressed as follows:

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I. TERMINOLOGY

The following symbols are used, as recommended by the International Radio Propagation Conference held in Washington, D. C., 17 April to 5 May 1944.

$f^{\circ}F2$ =ordinary-wave critical frequency for the $F2$ layer.

$F^{\circ}F2$ =extraordinary-wave critical frequency for the $F2$ layer.

E_s =sporadic, or abnormal, E .

fEs =highest frequency of E_s reflections.

muf or MUF=maximum usable frequency.

owf or OWF=optimum working frequency.

4000-muf chart=contour chart of muf for 4000-kilometer paths.

2000-muf chart=contour chart of muf for 2000-kilometer paths.

Zero-muf chart=contour chart of vertical-incidence critical frequency, extraordinary wave ($f^{\circ}F2$).

II. WORLD-WIDE PREDICTION CHARTS AND THEIR USES

The charts, figures 5 to 11, present world-wide predictions of monthly average maximum usable frequencies for April 1947. Conditions may be markedly different on disturbed days, especially in or near the auroral zones, shown on the map of figure 1. The method of prediction as discussed in the IRPL Radio Propagation Handbook, Part 1, War Dept. TM 11-499, Navy Dept. DNC-13-1, p. 52, 53, has been modified, substantially as indicated in reports IRPL-R11, 15, 16, and 19.

Although ionosphere characteristics are roughly similar for locations of equal latitude, there is also a considerable variation with longitude, especially in the case of the $F2$ layer. This "longitude effect" seems to be related to geomagnetic latitude. Attention was first called to this effect in the report "Radio Propagation Conditions" issued 10 Sept. 1943; it was brought into general operational use in the next issue (14 Oct. 1943).

The longitude effect in the $F2$ layer is taken care of by providing world charts for three zones, in each of which the ionosphere characteristics are considered independent of longitude for practical purposes. These zones are indicated on the world map, figure 1.

Two $F2$ charts are provided for each zone, one of which, the "zero-muf chart," shows the vertical-incidence muf, or the critical frequency for the extraordinary wave, and the other, the "4000-

muf chart," shows the muf for a transmission distance of 4000 km. Do not confuse the zero-muf charts with the $f^{\circ}F2$ charts appearing in the previous IRPL reports "Radio Propagation Conditions." (Values of $F2$ -zero-muf exceed those of $f^{\circ}F2$ for the same location and local time by an amount approximately equal to half the gyro-frequency for the location. See IRPL Radio Propagation Handbook, Part 1 (War Dept. TM 11-499 and Navy Dept. DNC-13-1), p. 18, 19, 28, and fig. 9).

The longitude variation is operationally negligible in the case of the normal E layer and therefore only one E -layer chart is provided.

The variation of fEs with geomagnetic latitude seems to be well marked and important. Consequently, the fEs charts are constructed on the basis of geomagnetic latitude.

Since there are as yet insufficient correlated data, the fEs charts are much less precise than the other charts. Instructions for use of these charts appear in section IV, 3.

Attention is called to the fact that the 50-percent contour in figure 15, "Percentage of Time of Occurrence of E_s -2000-muf in Excess of 15 Mc," does not necessarily coincide with the 3-Mc contour in figure 12, "Median fEs , in Mc," because the two charts are prepared independently.

III. DETERMINATION OF GREAT-CIRCLE DISTANCES, BEARINGS, AND LOCATION OF TRANSMISSION CONTROL POINTS

1. BY USE OF THE WORLD MAP AND GREAT-CIRCLE CHART

Figure 1 is a map of the world. Figure 2 is a chart to the same scale as figure 1, on which the solid-line curves crossing the equator at a single point represent great circles. The numbered dot-dash lines crossing the great circles indicate distances along them in thousands of kilometers. In using figures 1 and 2, proceed as follows:

a. Place a piece of transparent paper over the map, figure 1, and draw the equatorial line (zero degrees). Place dots over the locations of the transmitting and receiving stations. Also mark the meridian whose local times are to be used as

the times for calculation. Usually the Greenwich meridian is used.

b. Place this transparency over the chart, figure 2, and, keeping the equatorial line of the transparency always on the equatorial line of figure 2, slide the transparency horizontally until the terminal points marked on it fall either on the same great circle or the same proportional distance between adjacent great-circle curves. Draw in the path.

c. For paths shorter than 4000 km, locate the midpoint of the path, keeping the transparency

in position on figure 2 and using as a distance scale the points at which the numbered lines in figure 2 cross the path as drawn on the transparency.

d. For paths longer than 4000 km, designating the ends as the *A*-end and *B*-end, respectively, locate on the path and mark with a dot the follow-

ing "control points," scaling the distances as in *c* above:

For *F2* layer, points *A* and *B*, 2000 km from each end.

For *E* layer, points *A'* and *B'*, 1000 km from each end.

2. BY USE OF THE NOMOGRAM OF FIGURE 4

Note.—Values near the ends of the nomogram scales of figure 4 are subject to error because the scales are compressed. If exact values are required in those regions, they should be calculated by means of the usual trigonometric formulas.

In figure 3, *Z* and *S* are the locations of the transmitting and receiving stations, where *Z* is the west and *S* the east end of the path. *If a point lies in the Southern Hemisphere, its angle of latitude is always taken as negative. Northern-Hemisphere latitudes are taken as positive.*

a. To obtain the great-circle distances *ZS* (short route):

(1) Draw a slant line from (lat. *Z*—lat. *S*) measured up from the bottom on the left-hand scale to (lat. *Z*+lat. *S*) measured down from the top of the right-hand scale. If (lat. *Z*—lat. *S*) or (lat. *Z*+lat. *S*) is negative, regard it as positive.

(2) Determine the separation in longitude of the stations. Regard as positive. If the angle so obtained is greater than 180°, then subtract from 360°. Measure this angle along the bottom scale, and erect a vertical line to the slant line obtained in (1).

(3) From the intersection of the lines draw a horizontal line to the left-hand scale. This gives *ZS* in degrees.

(4) Convert the distance *ZS* to kilometers, miles, or nautical miles, by using the scale at the bottom of figure 4.

Note.—The long great-circle route in degrees is simply 360°—*ZS*. The value will always be greater than 180°. Therefore, in order to obtain the distance in miles from the conversion scale, the value for the degrees in excess of 180° is added to the value for 180°.

b. To obtain the bearing angle *PZS* (short route):

(1) Subtract the short-route distance *ZS* in degrees obtained in *a* from 90° to get *h*. The value of *h* may be negative, and should be substituted in (2) below without change of sign.

(2) Draw a slant line from (lat. *Z*—*h*) measured up from the bottom on the left-hand scale to (lat. *Z*+*h*) measured down from the top on the right-hand scale. If (lat. *Z*—*h*) or (lat. *Z*+*h*) is negative, regard it as positive.

(3) From (90°—lat. *S*) measured up from the bottom on the left-hand scale, draw a horizontal line until it intersects the previous slant line.

(4) From the point of intersection draw a vertical line to the bottom scale. This gives the bearing angle *PZS*. The angle may be either east or west of north, and must be determined by inspection of a map.

c. To obtain the bearing angle *PSZ*:

(1) Repeat steps (1), (2), (3), and (4) in *b*, interchanging *Z* and *S* in all computations. The result obtained is the interior angle *PSZ* in degrees.

(2) The bearing angle *PSZ* is 360° minus the result obtained in (1) (as bearings are customarily given clockwise from due north).

Note.—The long-route bearing angle is simply obtained by adding 180° to the short-route value as determined in *b* or *c* above.

d. To obtain the latitude of *Q* (mid- or other point of path):

(This calculation is in principle the converse of *b*.)

(1) Obtain *ZQ* in degrees. If *Q* is the midpoint of the path, *ZQ* will be equal to one-half, *ZS*. If *Q* is one of the 2000-km "control points," *ZQ* will be approximately 18°, or *ZS*—18°.

(2) Subtract *ZQ* from 90° to get *h'*. The value of *h'* may be negative, and should be substituted in (3) below without change of sign.

(3) Draw a slant line from (lat. *Z*—*h'*) measured up from the bottom on the left-hand scale, to (lat. *Z*+*h'*) measured down from the top on the right-hand scale. If (lat. *Z*—*h'*) or (lat. *Z*+*h'*) is negative, regard it as positive.

(4) From the bearing angle *PZS* (taken always as less than 180°) measured to the right on the bottom scale, draw a vertical line to meet the above slant line.

(5) From this intersection draw a horizontal line to the left-hand scale.

(6) Subtract the reading given from 90° to give the latitude of *Q*. (If the answer is negative, then *Q* is in the Southern Hemisphere.)

e. To obtain the longitude difference *t'* between *Z* and *Q*:

(This calculation is in principle the converse of *a*.)

(1) Draw a straight line from (lat. *Z*—lat. *Q*) measured up from the bottom on the left-hand scale to (lat. *Z*+lat. *Q*) measured down from the top on the right-hand scale. If (lat. *Z*—lat. *Q*) or (lat. *Z*+lat. *Q*) is negative, regard it as positive.

(2) From the left-hand side, at *ZQ*, in degrees, draw a horizontal line to the above slant line.

(3) At the intersection drop a vertical line to the bottom scale, which gives *t'* in degrees.

IV. CALCULATION OF MAXIMUM USABLE FREQUENCIES, OPTIMUM WORKING FREQUENCIES

1. PROCEDURE FOR DETERMINATION OF MUF AND OWF FOR TRANSMISSION DISTANCES UNDER 4000 KM (PROPAGATION BY THE REGULAR LAYERS)

a. Prepare or obtain work forms similar to CRPL form AF (see table 1). Note that form AF provides for the inclusion of sporadic *E* (*Es*), which will be discussed under 3 below.

In following the instructions of this section (for propagation by the regular layers) form AF should be modified by omitting columns *a*, *b*, *f*, *i* and *j*. The item on procedure in column *m* should read: "Higher of *g*, *h*," and in column *n*: "Higher of *k*, *l*."

b. Locate the midpoint of the transmission path using the methods of section III above and by laying the great-circle path transparency back on the world map of figure 1, with the ends of the path in their proper location, determine in which geographical zone, *E*, *I*, or *W*, the midpoint falls.

c. To determine the maximum usable frequency (muf):

(1) Place the great-circle transparency over the *F2-zero-muf* chart for the proper zone of the midpoint of the path, and, keeping the equatorial line of the transparency over the equatorial line of the chart, slide transparency horizontally until the Greenwich meridian coincides with 00 on the time scale. Note that all points on the great-circle path are in their proper local time relationship to Greenwich because 24 hours on the time scale of a muf chart is drawn to the same scale as 360° of longitude on the world map.

(2) Read the value of *F2-zero-muf* for the midpoint of the path and enter in column *d* of form AF.

(3) Repeat for 02, 04, etc., on the time scale.

(4) Repeat steps (1), (2), and (3) for the *F2-4000-muf* chart for the proper zone and again for the *E-layer 2000-muf* chart, figure 11, entering values in columns *e* and *c*, respectively.

(5) For each hour place a straightedge between the values of *F2-zero-muf* and *F2-4000 muf* at the left- and right-hand sides, respectively, of the grid nomogram, figure 13, and read the value of the muf for the actual path length at the intersection point of the straightedge with the appropriate vertical distance line. Enter in column *h*.

Example:

F2-zero-muf=6.8 Me. *F2-4000-muf*=23.0 Me. For a distance of 2600-km the *F2 muf* is 19.1 Me.

(6) For each hour place a straightedge between the value of the *E-layer 2000-muf* on the left-hand scale of the nomogram, figure 14, and the value of the path length on the right-hand scale, and read the *E-F1-muf* for that path length, off the central scale. (Example on nomogram.) Enter in column *g*.

(7) Compare the values of muf obtained by operations (1) to (6). The higher of the two values (columns *g* and *h* of form AF) thus determined is the muf for the path. Enter in column *m*.

d. To determine the optimum working frequency (owf):

(1) Calculate the *F2-owf* from the *F2-muf* determined under *c* above by multiplying each figure in column *h* by 0.85 or by using the conversion scale in figure 13. Enter in column *l*.

(2) Use for the *E-owf* the value of *E-F1-muf* determined under *c* (6) above. This represents a change from the previous practice of taking 97 percent of the *E-F1-muf* on the nomogram of figure 14. Enter in column *k*.

(3) Compare the *F2-owf* and *E-owf*. The higher of the two values (columns *k* and *l* of form AF) is that of the path owf. Enter in column *n*.

2. PROCEDURE FOR DETERMINATION OF MUF AND OWF FOR TRANSMISSION DISTANCES GREATER THAN 4000 KM (PROPAGATION BY THE REGULAR LAYERS)

a. General considerations:

The procedure outlined below is based on the following assumptions:

(1) That there are *F2-layer* control points *A* and *B* and *E-layer* control points *A'* and *B'*. (See section III, 1 d above.)

(2) That the highest frequency that will "take off" along the path at the *A*-end is the *highest* frequency that can be propagated at *A* and *A'* considered together.

(3) That the highest frequency that will come in along the path at the *B*-end is the *highest* frequency that can be propagated at *B* and *B'* considered together.

(4) That the highest frequency that can be propagated from the *A*-end to the *B*-end is the *lower* of the two frequencies of (2) and (3) above.

(5) That the frequency obtained in (4) is the same for propagation from the *B*-end to the *A*-end.

b. Prepare or obtain work forms similar to CRPL form AH (see table 2). Note that form AH provides for the inclusion of the effects of sporadic *E* (*Es*), which will be discussed under 3 below.

In following the instructions of this section (for propagation by the regular layers) form AH should be modified by omitting columns *a*, *b*, *e*, *g*, *h*, and *k*. The item on procedure in column *m* should read: "Higher of *c*, *d*," in column *n*: "Higher of *i*, *j*,"

in column *o*: "Higher of *d, f*," and in column *p*: "Higher of *j, l*."

c. Locate the control points *A* and *A'* at one end of the path and *B* and *B'* at the other end of the path as explained under section III, 1 *d* above. For very long paths the "short route" (minor arc of the great-circle path) and the "long route" (major arc) need be considered. Placing the transparency back on the world map, determine as in section IV, 1 *b* above, in which geographical zone, *E, I, or W*, each of the control points *A* and *B* falls.

d. To determine the muf:

(1) Place the great-circle transparency over the *F2-4000-muf* chart for the zone of control point *A* and, keeping the equatorial line of the transparency over the equatorial line of the chart, slide the transparency horizontally until the Greenwich meridian coincides with 00 on the time scale.

(2) Read the value of *F2-4000-muf* for control point *A*. Enter in column *c* of form AH.

(3) Repeat for 02, 04, etc. on the time scale.

(4) Repeat steps (1), (2), and (3) on the *E-layer 2000-muf* chart, figure 11, using control point *A'*. Enter values in column *d*.

(5) Determine the muf for the *A*-end as the higher of the *F2-4000-muf*, column *c*, and the *E-layer 2000-muf*, column *d*. Enter in column *m*.

(6) Read the value of *F2-4000-muf* for control point *B*, using the *F2-4000-muf* chart for the proper zone. Enter values in column *i*.

(7) Repeat for 02, 04, etc. on the time scale.

(8) Read the values of *E-layer 2000-muf* on the *E-layer 2000-muf* chart, figure 11, using control point *B'*. Enter values in column *j*.

(9) Determine the muf for the *B*-end as the higher of the *F2-4000-muf*, column *i*, and the *E-layer 2000-muf*, column *j*. Enter in column *n*.

(10) Compare the two muf values of columns *m* and *n*. The lower of the two is the muf for the transmission path under consideration. Enter in column *q*.

e. To determine the owf:

(1) Use the scaled data of the previous procedure.

(2) Multiply the *F2-4000-muf* for the *A*-end, column *c*, by 0.85, or use the conversion scale in figure 13, to obtain the *F2-4000-owf* for the *A*-end, column *f*.

(3) Multiply the *F2-4000-muf* for the *B*-end, column *i*, by 0.85 or use the conversion scale in figure 13, to obtain the *F2-4000-owf* for the *B*-end, column *l*.

(4) Compare the *F2-4000-owf* for the *A*-end, column *f*, with the *E-layer 2000-muf* for the *A*-end, column *d*. The higher of the two is the owf for the *A*-end. Enter in column *o*.

(5) Compare the *F2-4000-owf* for the *B*-end, column *l*, with the *E-layer 2000-muf* for the *B*-end, column *j*. The higher of the two is the owf for the *B*-end. Enter in column *p*.

(6) Compare the two owf values of columns *o* and *p*. The lower of the two is the owf for the transmission path under consideration. Enter in column *r*.

3. PROCEDURES FOR INCLUSION OF THE EFFECTS OF *Es*

Sporadic-*E* (*Es*) propagation may often allow regular transmission when regular *E*- or *F2*-layer propagation would not. *Es* data are not yet sufficient to permit accurate calculations of such propagation, but the *fEs* charts of figures 12 and 15 are given as a guide to *Es* occurrence.

As the *fEs* charts are constructed from considerations of geomagnetic latitude, three latitude scales are provided at the right of the charts of figures 12 and 15, one for each of the three zones of figure 1 (*E, I, and W*).

Until further improvements are made, the following procedures should be used to include the effects of *Es* in the calculations of muf and owf.

a. For paths over 4000 km long:

(1) Place the great-circle path transparency prepared in section III, 1, over the median *fEs* chart, figure 12, using the latitude scale for the zone containing the control point.

(2) Scale *fEs* at control points *A'* and *B'*. Enter in columns *a* and *g*, respectively, on form AH.

(3) Multiply *fEs* by 5 in each case, obtaining the *Es-2000-muf*. Enter in columns *b* and *h*, respectively.

(4) In the determination of muf modify the procedure (steps (5) and (9)) of section IV, 2 *d* above to obtain the muf for the *A*- and *B*-ends, respectively, as the highest of the three items, the *F2-400-muf*, the *E-layer 2000-muf*, and the *Es-2000-muf*. No other change is necessary.

(5) In the determination of owf subtract 4 Mc from the *Es-2000-muf* to obtain the *Es-2000-owf* for the *A*-end and *B*-end, respectively, entering the results in columns *e* and *k*. Then modify the procedure (steps (4) and (5)) of section IV, 2 *e* to obtain the owf for the *A*- and *B*-ends, respectively, as the highest of the three items, the *F2-4000-owf*, the *E-layer 2000-muf*, and the *Es-2000-owf*. No other changes are necessary.

b. For paths under 4000 km long:

(1) Repeat step (1) of *a* above.

(2) Scale *fEs* at the midpoint of the path. Enter in column *a* of form AF.

(3) Multiply *fEs* by 5, obtaining the *Es-2000-muf*. Enter in column *b*.

(4) In the determination of muf under IV, 1 *c*, find the *Es-muf* for the path by use of the same nomogram, figure 14, as was used for the *E-F1-*

muf, applying the *Es*-2000-muf on the left-hand scale and reading the answer on the middle scale. Enter in column *f*. Then modify the procedure in IV, 1 *c* (7), so that the highest of the *three* values, the *F*²-muf, the *E*-*F*¹-muf, and the *Es*-muf, columns *h*, *g*, *f*, is the muf for the path.

(5) In the determination of owf under IV, 1 *d*, subtract 4 Mc from the *Es*-2000-muf found under (3) above to obtain the *Es*-2000-owf, entering in column *i*. Now find the *Es*-owf for the path, using the same nomogram, figure 14, as for the *E*-owf, applying the *Es*-2000-owf to the left-hand scale and reading the answer on the middle scale. Enter in column *j*. Then modify the procedure

in section IV, 1 *d* (3) so that the highest of the *three* values, the *F*²-owf, the *E*-owf, and the *Es*-owf, columns *l*, *k*, *j*, is the owf for the path.

Because of the variable nature of *Es*, and the relative uncertainty with which *Es* is known, caution should be used in the application of *Es*-owf, particularly for short paths. While transmission should take place most of the time on *Es*-owf, fluctuations in *Es* may at times interrupt service. It is thus often desirable to operate near the owf for the regular layers (*E*, *F*¹, *F*²) only, without the inclusion of *Es*, although transmission may take place more than 80 percent of the time near the *Es*-owf.

V. ABSORPTION, DISTANCE RANGE, AND LOWEST USEFUL HIGH FREQUENCY

The procedures outlined in the text of this report will give an adequate solution to most of the high-frequency propagation problems that will normally be encountered in the field. If operating frequencies are chosen near the calculated owf prediction in any given case, best possible results should be had, at least in communications work.

The use of frequencies too far below the owf will result in weak reception because of increasing ionospheric absorption as the frequency decreases. The factor that limits the usefulness of low field intensities is usually atmospheric noise at the receiving location.

The determination of lowest useful high frequencies is more difficult than the determination of muf and the techniques for their prediction are less far advanced.

The subject of absorption, distance range, and lowest useful high frequency is discussed at length in IRPL Radio Propagation Handbook, Part 1, p. 69-97 (War Dept. TM 11-499, Navy Dept. DNC-13-1), and formulas, graphs, and nomograms for calculation are given there.

Simpler and more accurate techniques are being developed and will be released as soon as the work is completed.

VI. SAMPLE MUF AND OWF CALCULATIONS

1. FOR SHORT PATHS

Required: The muf and owf for transmission between Washington, D. C. (39.0° N, 77.5° W) and Miami, Fla. (25.7° N, 80.5° W) for average conditions during the month of April 1947.

Solution:

Let the local time used for this problem be GCT (Z time or that of 0° longitude).

The midpoint of the path is at approximately 32.5° N, 79.0° W, and the transmission path length is approximately 1500 km, all in *W* zone.

The values of *E*- and *F*²-layer muf and owf, and also *Es*-muf and owf for even hours, GCT, as determined by using the procedure given in section IV, are given in table 1. The final values are presented graphically in figure 16.

Values of owf for the path obtained by the procedure of section IV, 1 *c* for the regular layers only are given in columns *k* and *l* of table 1. The higher of these two values for each even hour is underscored and plotted in figure 16. The resulting graph of owf, for the regular layers only, is shown as a solid-line curve.

Values of *Es*-owf are controlling for hours for

which the value in column *j* exceeds the corresponding underlined value in columns *k* or *l*. For the month of April, *Es*-owf is not the controlling frequency over this path at any time. Accordingly, no values of *Es*-owf are plotted in figure 16.

Figure 16 shows that skip will occur, on the average, during the night hours, if a frequency as high as 12.0 Mc is used. A frequency as high as 9.5 Mc will not skip, on the average, at any time of day, but its use is not advisable because of (a) the day-to-day variability, causing some probability of skip during the night hours, and (b) ionospheric absorption during the daytime, which is more pronounced at low frequencies.

A satisfactory plan to insure continuous transmission at all times, over a path like this, involves the use of two frequencies, one for night and one for day. Figure 16 shows that a night frequency of 8.5 Mc, to be used from 0035 to 1225 GCT, and a day frequency of 13.5 Mc, to be used from 1225 to 0035 GCT, would be satisfactory. The periods of usefulness of these frequencies are shown by the heavy dashed line on figure 16.

2. FOR LONG PATHS

Required: The muf and owf for transmission between Washington, D. C. (39.0° N, 77.5° W) and Trieste, Italy (45.7° N, 13.8° E) for average conditions during the month of April 1947.

Solution:

Let the local time for this problem be GCT (Z time or that of 0° longitude).

The path length is approximately 7100 km, and the two *F*2-layer control points, *A* and *B*, respectively, are at approximately 49° N, 56.5° W, and 52° N, 12.5° W. These are, respectively, in the *W* zone and the *I* zone, as shown on the map, figure 1. The two *E*-layer and *E*_s control points, *A'* and *B'*, respectively, are located at approximately 44° N, 68.5° W, and 49.5° N, 1.5° E. These are in the *W* and *I* zones, respectively.

The values of muf and owf over this transmission path, as determined by the procedure in section IV, are given in table 2 for even hours, GCT. Provision has been made in the computation of this table for the inclusion of the effects of *E*_s. The final figures are shown graphically in figure 17.

Figure 17 shows that skip will occur, on the average, during the night hours if a frequency as high as 13.0 Mc is used, although higher frequen-

cies may be used during much of the twenty-four hours.

A good, practical arrangement to insure continuous transmission at all times is to select three frequencies in a manner similar to that suggested in the preceding problem. A frequency of 9.9 Mc may be used from 0200 to 0950 GCT, a frequency of 20.0 Mc may be used from 1230 to 2240 GCT, and a transition frequency of 14.5 Mc may be used from 0950 to 1230 GCT, and from 2240 to 0200 GCT.

By inspection of the absorption chart and the noise map (figs. 83, 119, and 120 of the IRPL Radio Propagation Handbook, Part 1, War Dept. TM 11-499, Navy Dept. DNC-13-1), it may be seen that considerations of the lowest useful high frequency over this path may be of considerable importance in selecting frequencies for use. Consequently, in cases of transmission failure on the frequencies here recommended, particularly in the case of the transition frequency, changing the frequency to a value slightly under the muf for the path may be advisable.

The bearing of Trieste from Washington is approximately 51° , and that of Washington from Trieste is approximately 299° , both determined by the nomogram of figure 4.

From Washington, D. C. To Miami, Fla. Distance, 1500 km Zone W Predicted for Apr. 1947

Note: All frequencies are in megacycles.

GCT	fE_s		E_s 2000-muf		E-layer 2000-muf		F_2 zero-muf		F_2 4000-muf		E_s -muf for Path		E- F_1 -muf for Path		F_2 -muf for Path		E_s for 2000-owf		E_s -owf for Path		E-owf for Path		F_2 -owf for Path		MUF for Path		OWF for Path	
	a	b	c	d	e	f	g	h	i	j	k	l	m	n	o	p	q	r	s	t	u	v	w	x	y	z	aa	ab
Procedure	Scale	5 X a	Scale	Scale	Scale																							
00	2.2	11.0	7.7	9.5	28.8	10.3	7.0	17.3	7.0	6.5	7.0	14.7	17.3	14.7	10.9	12.8	10.8	12.7	10.8	12.7	10.8	12.7	10.8	12.7	10.8	12.7	10.8	12.7
01	2.1	10.5		7.8	22.7	9.7		13.7	6.5	6.1		11.6	13.7	11.6														
03																												
04				7.4	20.8			12.8				10.9	12.8	10.9														
05																												
06				7.2	21.0			12.7				10.8	12.7	10.8														
07																												
08				6.5	18.9			11.5				9.8	11.5	9.8														
09																												
10				5.8	16.3			10.0				8.5	10.0	8.5														
11																												
12				8.1	25.5			15.1				12.8	15.1	12.8														
13																												
14	3.1	15.5	16.9	10.1	31.8	14.3	15.3	18.7	11.5	10.7	15.3	15.9	18.7	15.9														
15																												
16	3.4	17.0	18.7	11.5	35.5	15.7	17.1	21.1	13.0	12.0	17.1	17.9	21.1	17.9														
17																												
18	3.3	16.5	18.9	12.0	36.4	15.2	17.4	21.8	12.5	11.5	17.4	18.5	21.8	18.5														
19																												
20	3.1	15.5	17.7	11.7	36.2	14.3	16.1	21.6	11.5	10.7	16.1	18.4	21.6	18.4														
21																												
22	2.8	14.0	14.3	11.0	34.2	13.0	13.2	20.3	10.0	9.3	13.2	17.2	20.3	17.2														
23																												
Done by																												
Checked																												

From Washington, D. C. To Trieste, Italy Distance, 7100 km Predicted for April 1947

Note: All frequencies are in megacycles.

GCT	A-end						B-end						MUF	MUF B-end	OWF A-end	OWF B-end	MUF for PATH	OWF for PATH
	Pt. A in W Zone			Pt. A' in W Zone			Pt. B in I Zone			Pt. B' in I Zone								
	fEs	Es 2000- muf	F2 4000- muf	E-layer 2000- muf	Es 2000- muf	F2 4000- muf	fEs	Es 2000- muf	F2 4000- muf	E-layer 2000- muf	Es 2000- muf	F2 4000- muf						
Procedure	a	b	c	d	e	f	g	h	i	j	k	l	m	n	o	p	q	r
00			23.8			20.2			21.2			18.0	23.8	21.2	20.2	18.0	21.2	18.0
01																		
02			18.9			16.1			17.1			14.5	18.9	17.1	16.1	14.5	17.1	14.5
03																		
04			15.2			12.9			15.3			13.0	15.2	15.3	12.9	13.0	15.2	12.9
05																		
06			11.7			9.9	2.2	11.0	15.7	10.5	7.0	13.3	11.7	15.7	9.9	13.3	11.7	9.9
07																		
08			11.9			10.1	3.1	15.5	23.0	14.5	11.5	19.6	11.9	23.0	10.1	19.6	11.9	10.1
09																		
10			17.5	8.1		14.9	3.2	16.0	26.8	16.6	12.0	22.8	17.5	26.8	14.9	22.8	17.5	14.9
11																		
12	2.5	12.5	22.8	13.8	8.5	19.4	3.2	16.0	29.8	17.2	12.0	25.3	22.8	29.8	19.4	25.3	22.8	19.4
13																		
14	2.8	14.0	25.8	16.6	10.0	21.9	3.1	15.5	30.8	16.4	11.5	26.2	25.8	30.8	21.9	26.2	25.8	21.9
15																		
16	2.8	14.0	27.9	17.6	10.0	23.7	2.3	11.5	30.6	14.3	7.5	26.0	27.9	30.6	23.7	26.0	27.9	23.7
17																		
18	2.8	14.0	30.4	17.3	10.0	25.8			30.2	10.1		25.7	30.4	30.2	25.8	25.7	30.2	25.7
19																		
20			31.3	15.6		26.6			29.4			25.0	31.3	29.4	26.6	25.0	29.4	25.0
21																		
22			28.2	11.9		24.0			25.1			21.3	28.2	25.1	24.0	21.3	25.1	21.3
23																		
Done by																		
Checked																		

From Washington, D. C. To Miami, Fla. Distance, 1500 km Zone M Predicted for Apr. 1947

Note: All frequencies are in megacycles.

GCT	f_{E_s}	E_s 2000- muf	E-layer 2000- muf	F_2 zero- muf	F_2 4000- muf	E_s -muf for Path	E_f -muf for Path	F_2 -muf for Path	E_s 2000- owf	E_s -owf for Path	E-owf for Path	F_2 -owf for Path	MUF for Path	OWF for Path
	a	b	c	d	e	f	g	h	i	j	k	l	m	n
	Scale	5X a	Scale	Scale	Scale				b-4.0		Same as g	.85 h	Highest of f, g, h	Highest of j, k, l
00	2.2	11.0	7.7	9.5	28.8	10.3	7.0	17.3	7.0	6.5	7.0	14.7	17.3	14.7
01														
02	2.1	10.5		7.8	22.7	9.7		13.7	6.5	6.1		11.6	13.7	11.6
03														
04				7.4	20.8			12.8				10.9	12.8	10.9
05														
06				7.2	21.0			12.7				10.8	12.7	10.8
07														
08				6.5	18.9			11.5				9.8	11.5	9.8
09														
10				5.8	16.3			10.0				8.5	10.0	8.5
11														
12			12.7	8.1	25.5		11.6	15.1			11.6	12.8	15.1	12.8
13														
14	3.1	15.5	16.9	10.1	31.8	14.3	15.3	18.7	11.5	10.7	15.3	15.9	18.7	15.9
15														
16	3.4	17.0	18.7	11.5	35.5	15.7	17.1	21.1	13.0	12.0	17.1	17.9	21.1	17.9
17														
18	3.3	16.5	18.9	12.0	36.4	15.2	17.4	21.8	12.5	11.5	17.4	18.5	21.8	18.5
19														
20	3.1	15.5	17.7	11.7	36.2	14.3	16.1	21.6	11.5	10.7	16.1	18.4	21.6	18.4
21														
22	2.8	14.0	14.3	11.0	34.2	13.0	13.2	20.3	10.0	9.3	13.2	17.2	20.3	17.2
23														
Done by														

From Washington, D. C. To Trieste, Italy Distance, 7100 km Predicted for April 1947

Note: All frequencies are in megacycles.

GCT	A-end												B-end												MUF	MUF B-end	OWF A-end	OWF B-end	MUF for PATH	OWF for PATH
	Pt. A in W Zone				Pt. A' in W Zone				Pt. B in I Zone				Pt. B' in I Zone																	
	fEs	Es 2000-4000- muf	F2 4000- muf	E-layer 2000-4000- muf	d	e	f	fEs	Es 2000-4000- muf	F2 4000- muf	E-layer 2000-4000- muf	k	l	m	n	o	p	q	r											
Procedure	Scale pt. A'	5 x o	Scale pt. A	Scale pt. A'	b - 4.0	.85 c	Scale pt. B'	5 x g	Scale pt. B	Scale pt. B'	l1 - 4.0	.85 i	Highest of b,c,d	Highest of h,i,j	Highest of d,e,f	Highest of j,k,l	Lower of m,n	Lower of o,p												
00			23.8			20.2			21.2			18.0	23.8	21.2	20.2	18.0	21.2	18.0												
01																														
02			18.9			16.1			17.1			14.5	18.9	17.1	16.1	14.5	17.1	14.5												
03																														
04			15.2			12.9			15.3			13.0	15.2	15.3	12.9	13.0	15.2	12.9												
05																														
06			11.7			9.9	2.2	11.0	15.7	10.5	7.0	13.3	11.7	15.7	9.9	13.3	11.7	9.9												
07																														
08			11.9			10.1	3.1	15.5	23.0	14.5	11.5	19.6	11.9	23.0	10.1	19.6	11.9	10.1												
09																														
10			17.5	8.1		14.9	3.2	16.0	26.8	16.6	12.0	22.8	17.5	26.8	14.9	22.8	17.5	14.9												
11																														
12	2.5	12.5	22.8	13.8	8.5	19.4	3.2	16.0	29.8	17.2	12.0	25.3	22.8	29.8	19.4	25.3	22.8	19.4												
13																														
14	2.8	14.0	25.8	16.6	10.0	21.9	3.1	15.5	30.8	16.4	11.5	26.2	25.8	30.8	21.9	26.2	25.8	21.9												
15																														
16	2.8	14.0	27.9	17.6	10.0	23.7	2.3	11.5	30.6	14.3	7.5	26.0	27.9	30.6	23.7	26.0	27.9	23.7												
17																														
18	2.8	14.0	30.4	17.3	10.0	25.8			30.2	10.1		25.7	30.4	30.2	25.8	25.7	30.2	25.7												
19																														
20			31.3	15.6		26.6			29.4			25.0	31.3	29.4	26.6	25.0	29.4	25.0												
21																														
22			28.2	11.9		24.0			25.1			21.3	28.2	25.1	24.0	21.3	25.1	21.3												
23																														
Done by																														
Checked																														

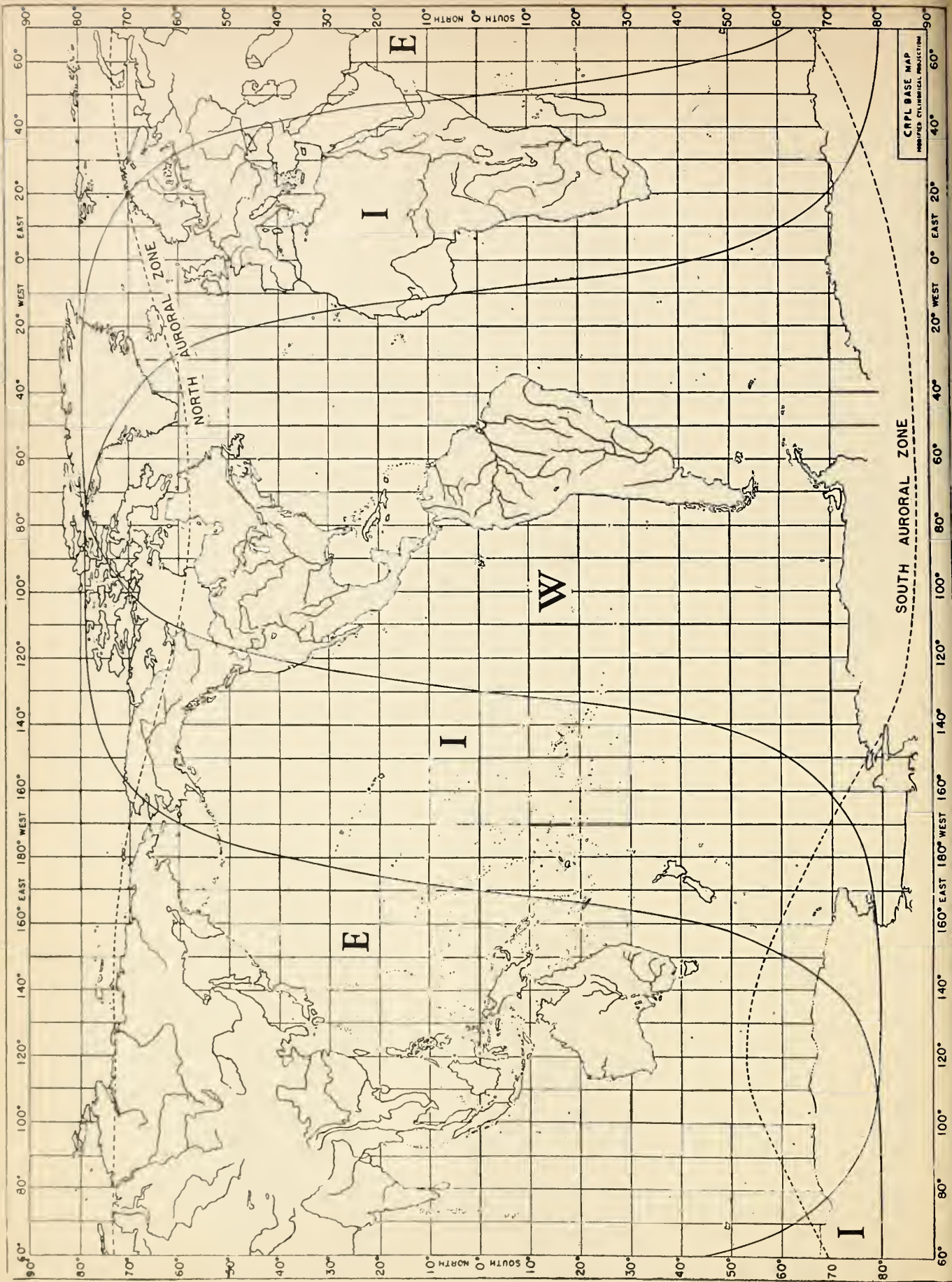


Fig. 1. WORLD MAP SHOWING ZONES COVERED BY PREDICTED CHARTS, AND AURORAL ZONES

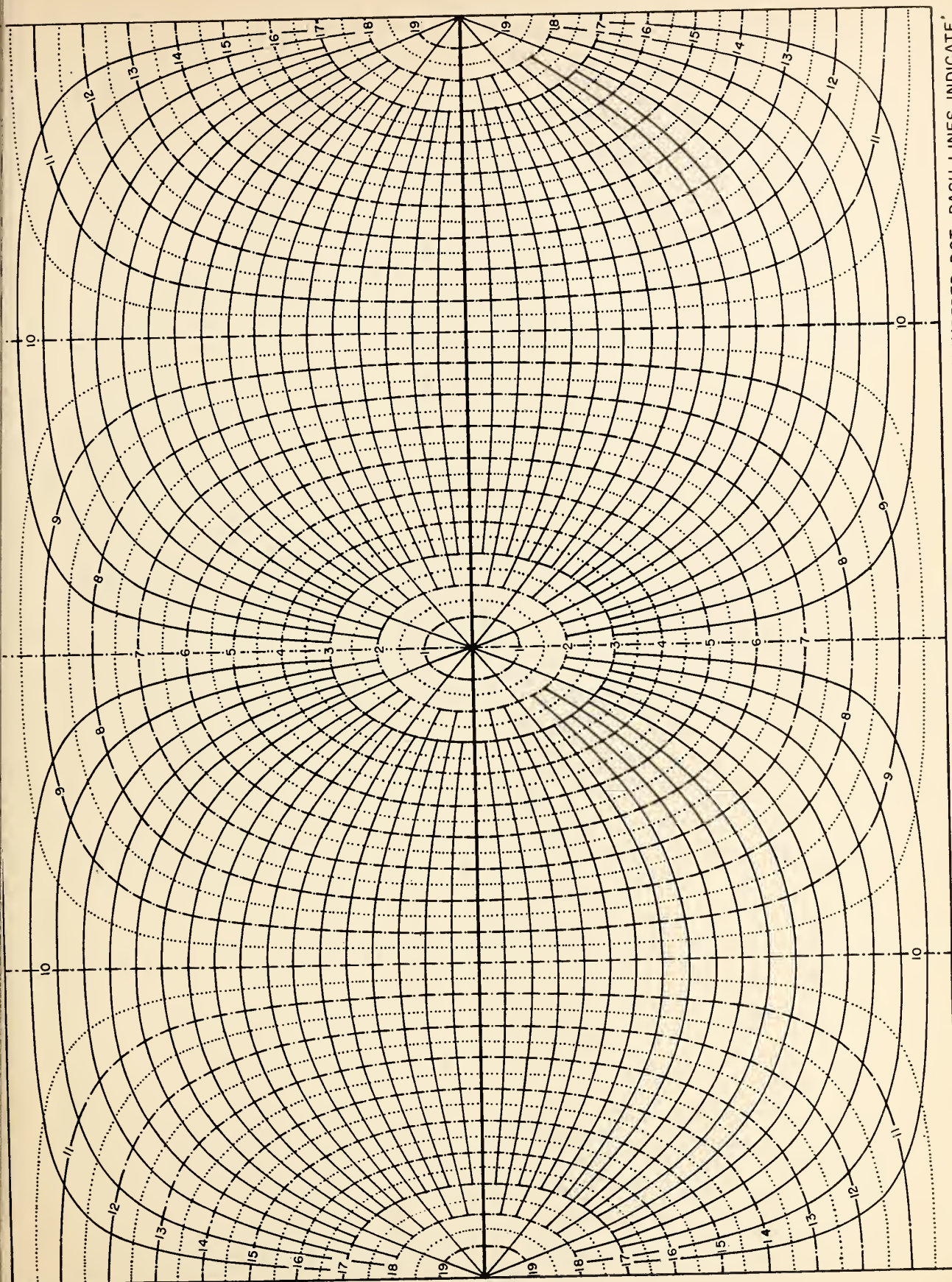


Fig. 2. GREAT CIRCLE CHART CENTERED ON EQUATOR. SOLID LINES REPRESENT GREAT CIRCLES. NUMBERED DOT-DASH LINES INDICATE DISTANCES IN THOUSANDS OF KILOMETERS.

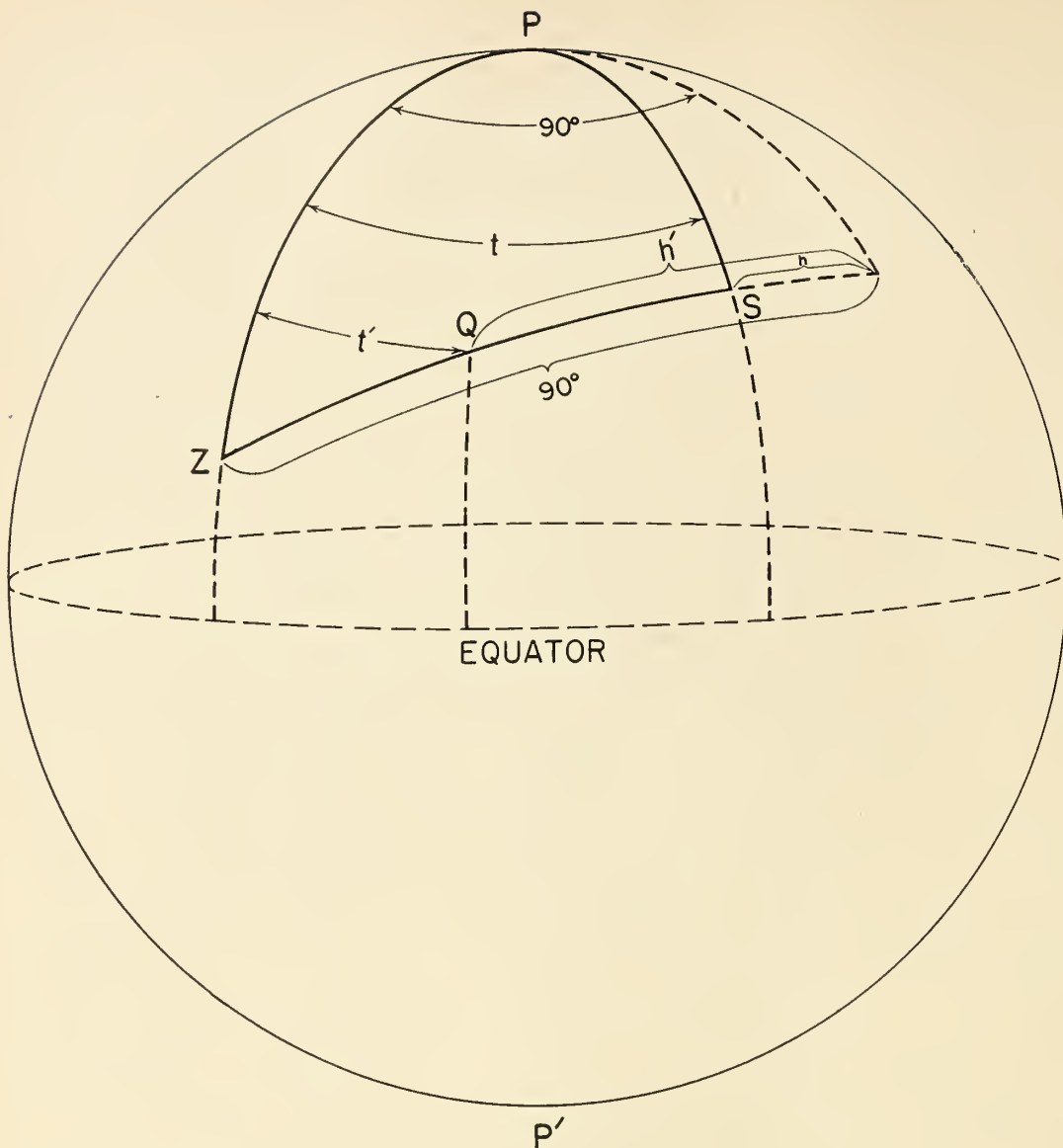


Fig. 3. DIAGRAM OF TRANSMISSION PATH AUXILIARY TO EXPLANATION OF USE OF DISTANCE — BEARING NOMOGRAM, FIG. 4.

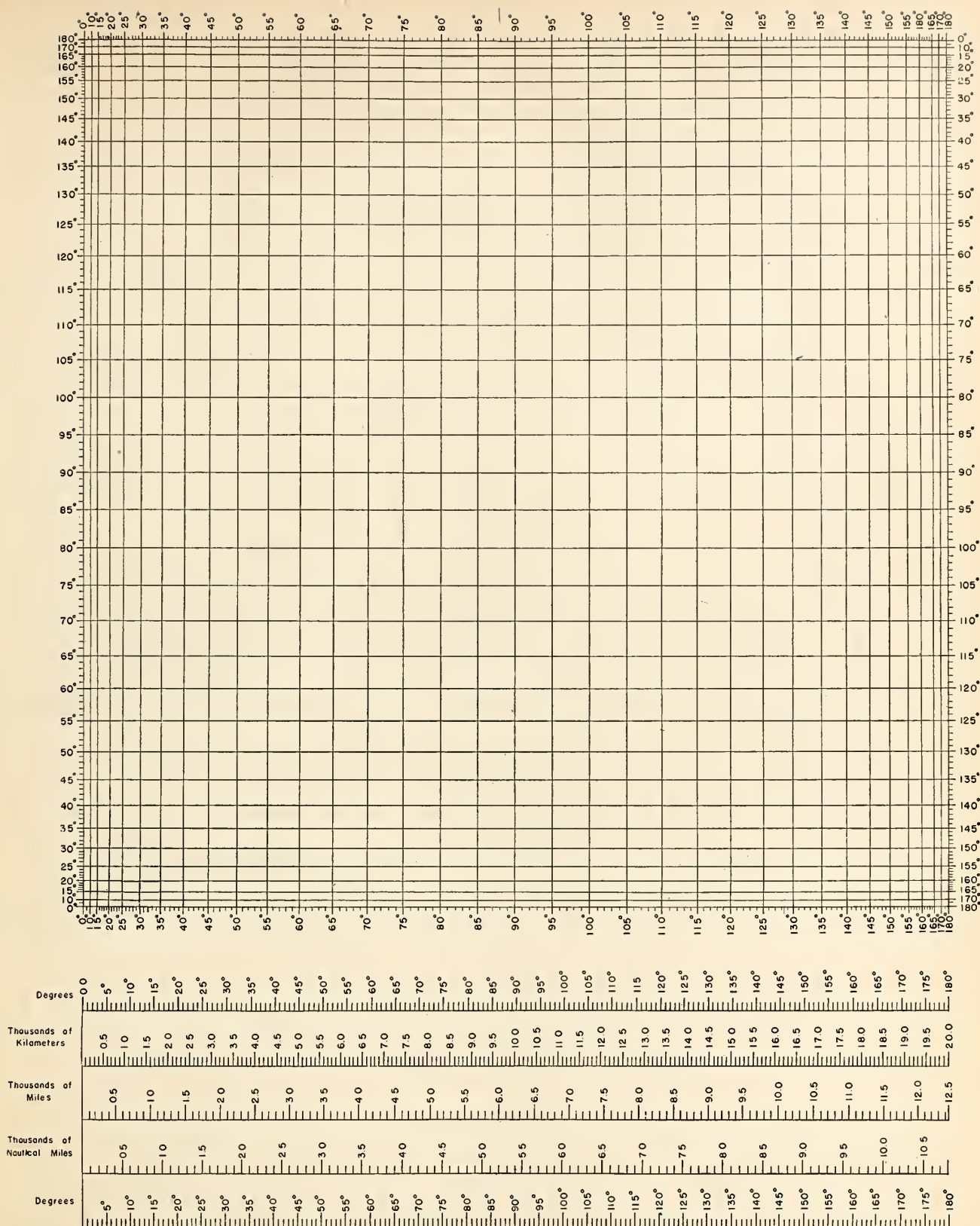


Fig. 4. NOMOGRAM (AFTER D'OCAGNE) FOR OBTAINING GREAT-CIRCLE DISTANCES, BEARINGS, LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE OF TRANSMISSION CONTROL POINTS, SOLAR ZENITH ANGLES.
CONVERSION SCALE FOR VARIOUS DISTANCE UNITS.

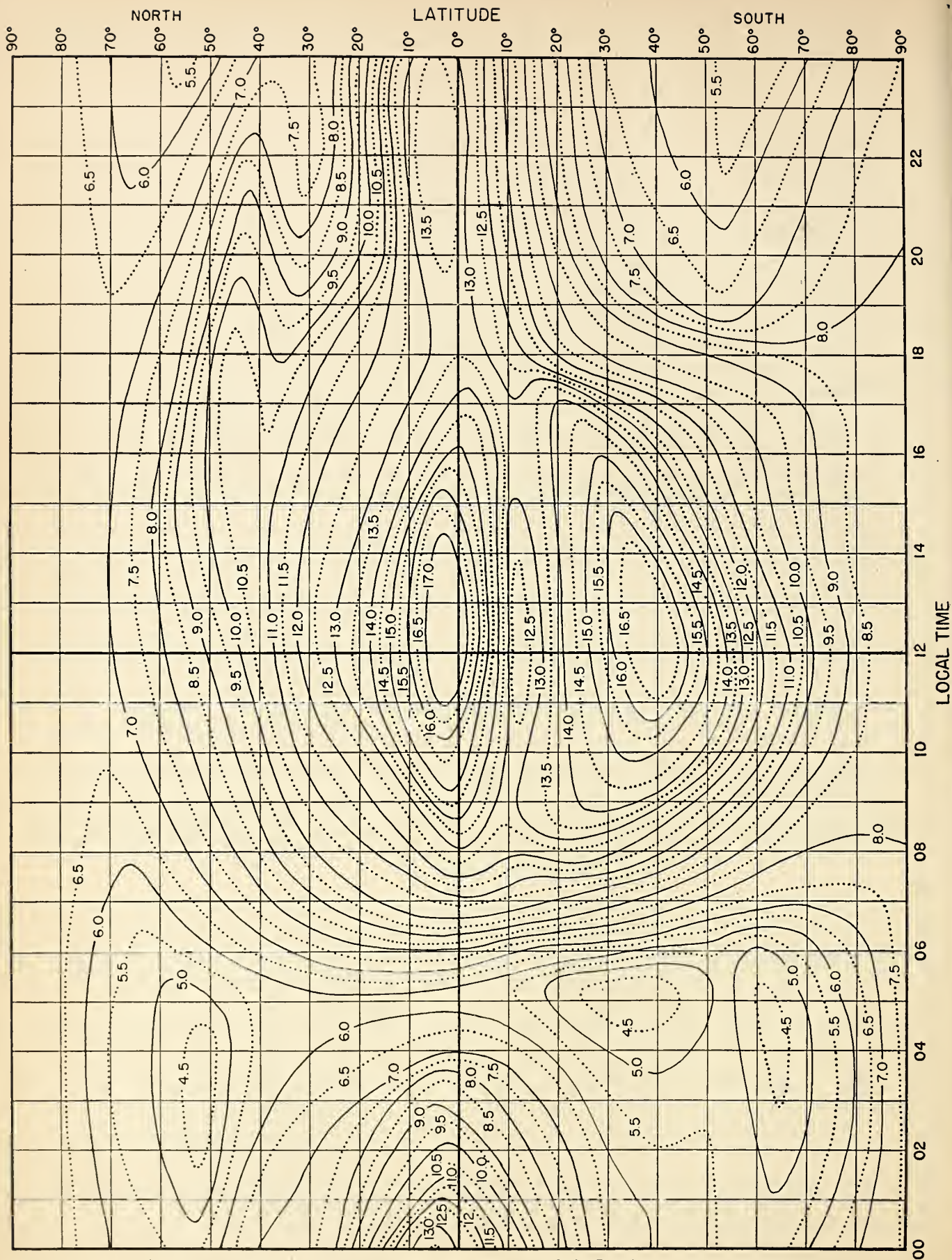


Fig. 5. F₂ ZERO-MUF, IN Mc, W ZONE, PREDICTED FOR APRIL 1947

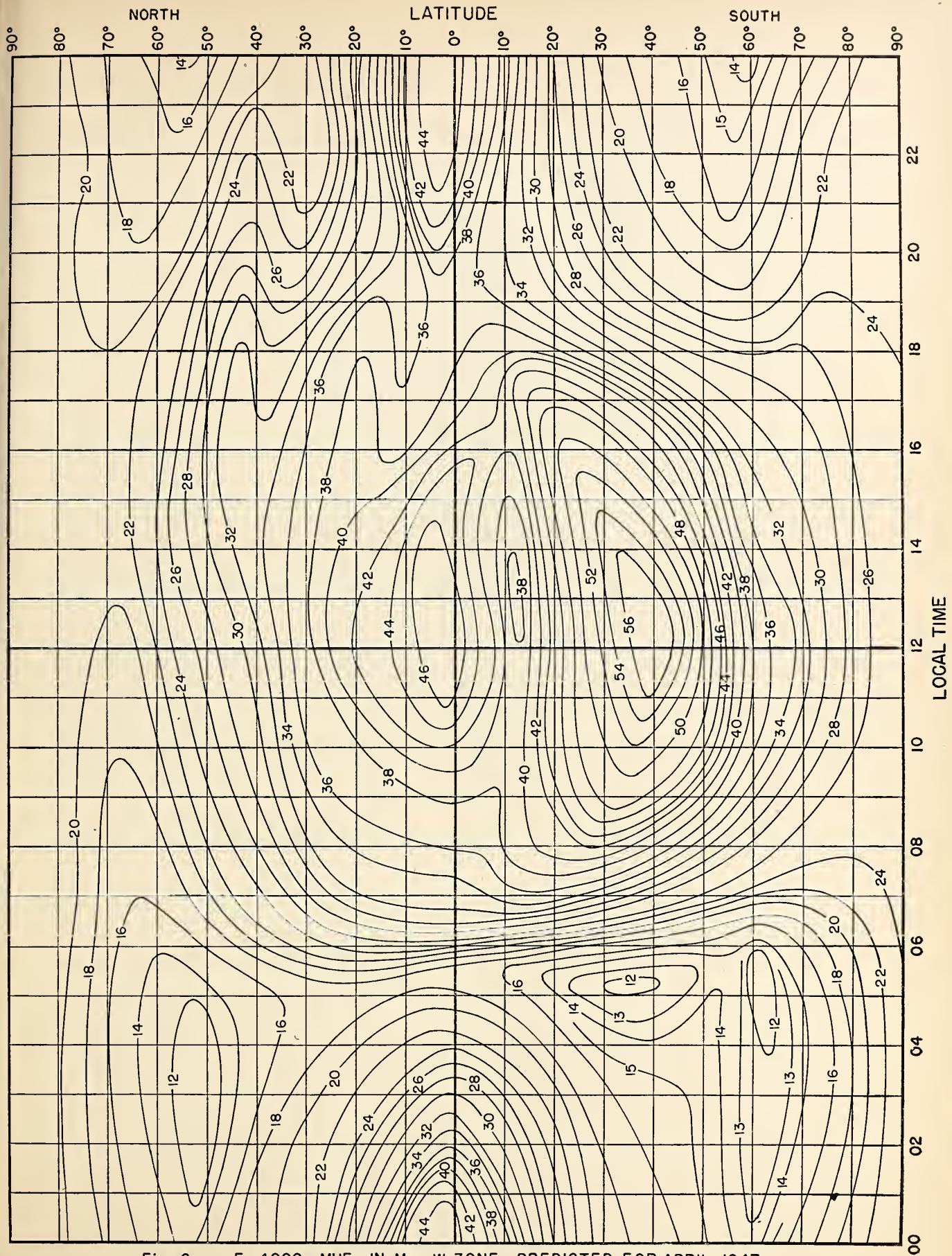


Fig. 6. F_2 4000-MUF, IN Mc, W ZONE, PREDICTED FOR APRIL 1947

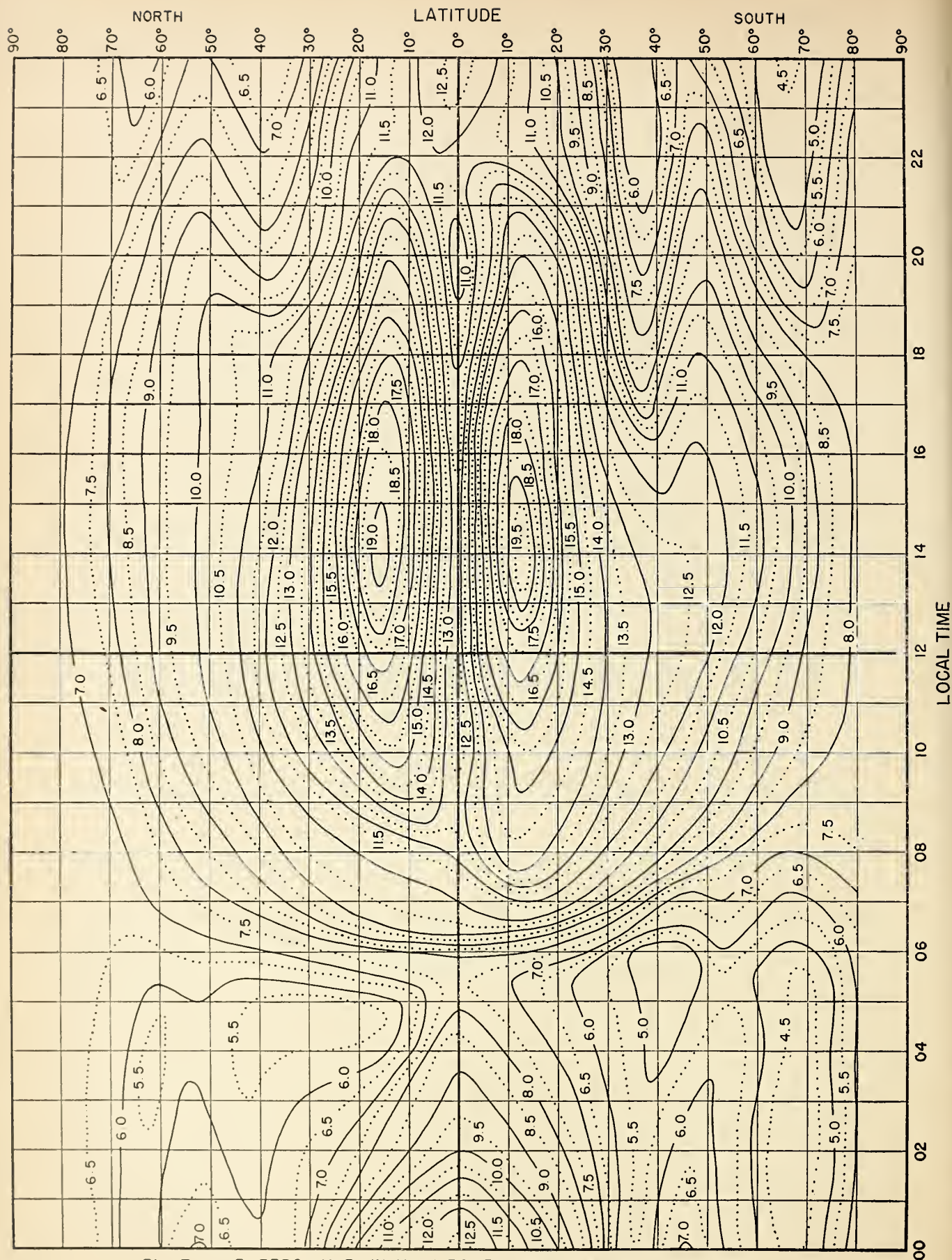


Fig. 7. F_2 ZERO-MUF, IN Mc, I ZONE, PREDICTED FOR APRIL 1947

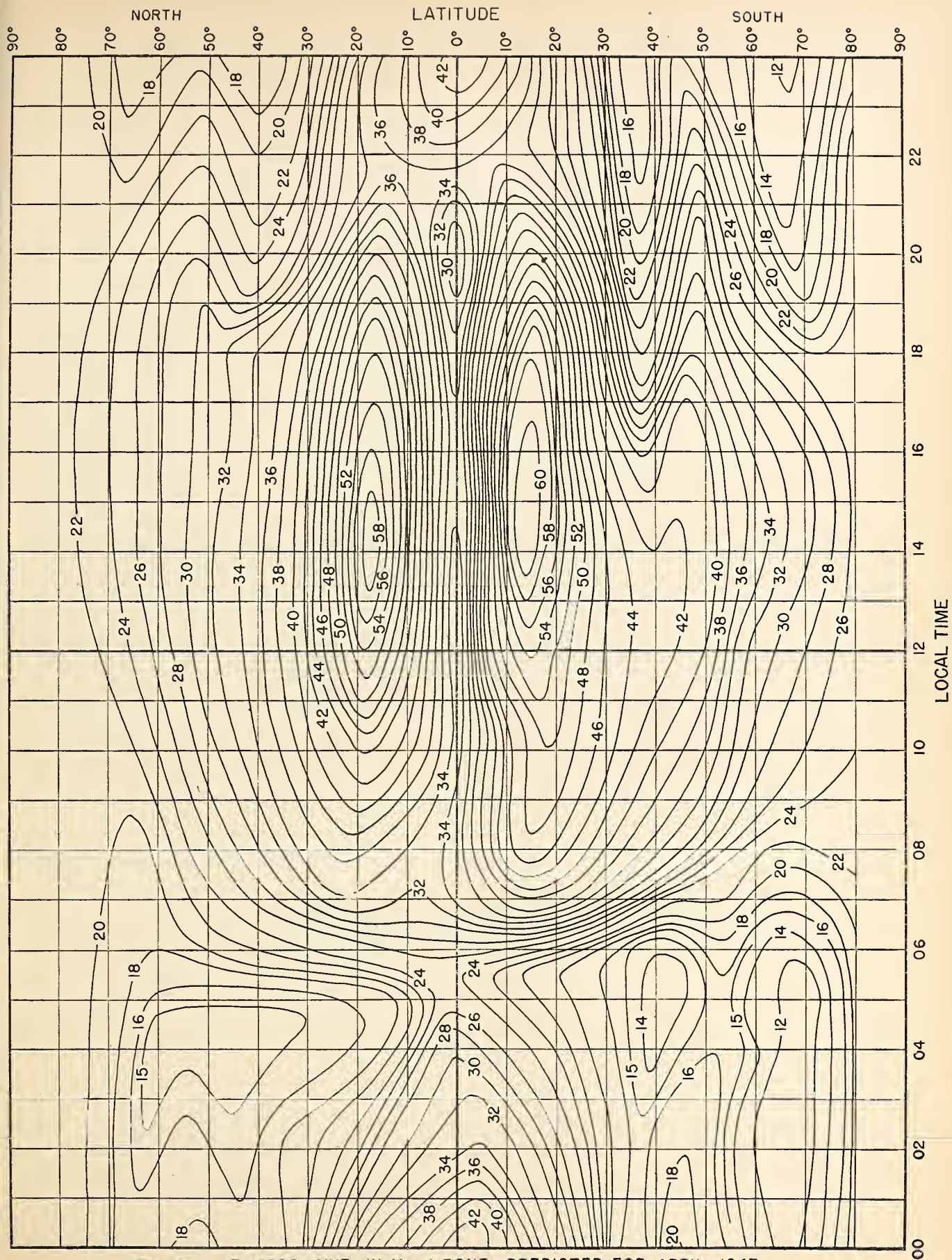


Fig. 8. F_2 4000-MUF, IN Mc, I ZONE, PREDICTED FOR APRIL 1947

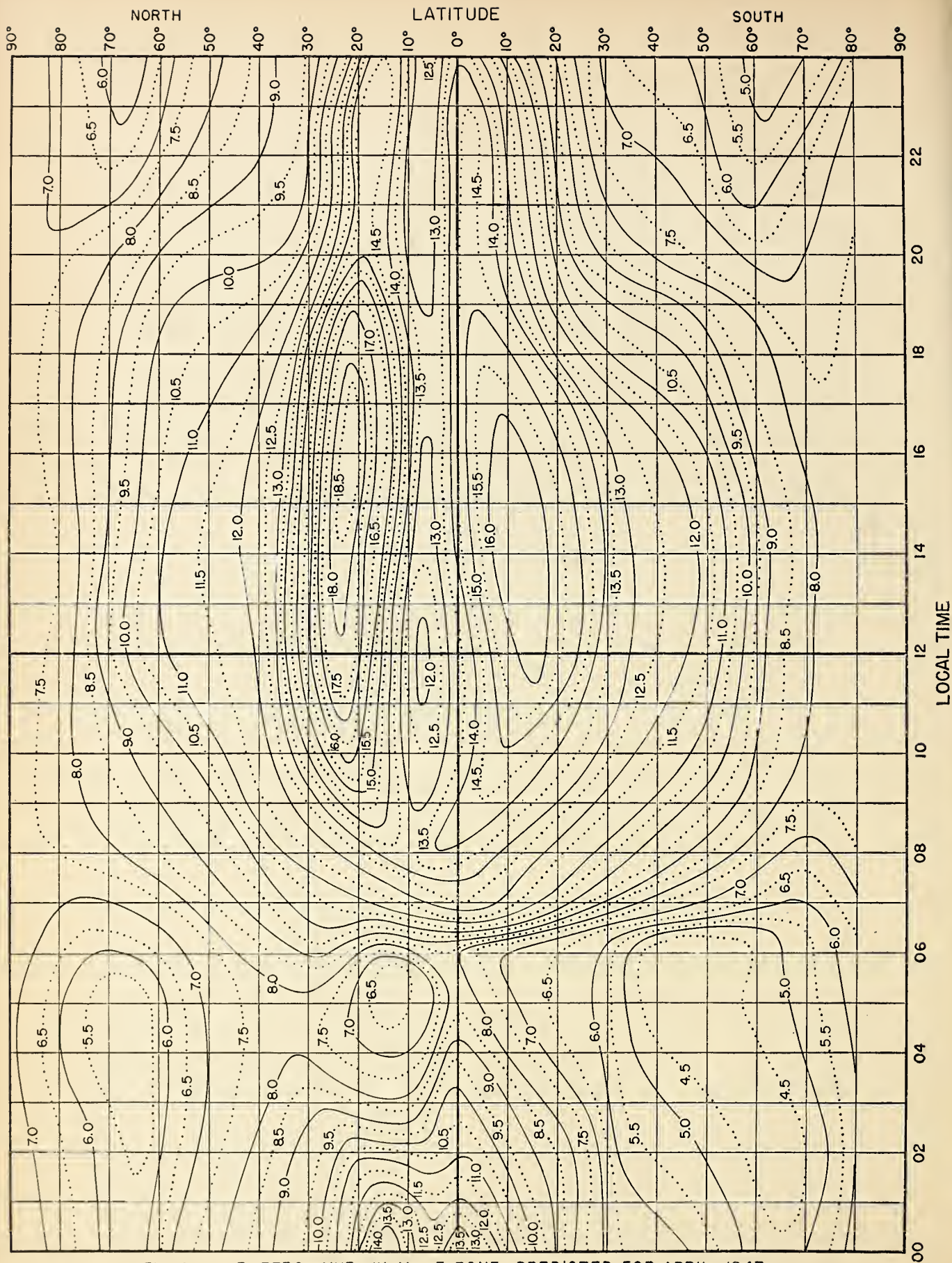


Fig. 9. F₂ ZERO-MUF, IN Mc, E ZONE, PREDICTED FOR APRIL 1947

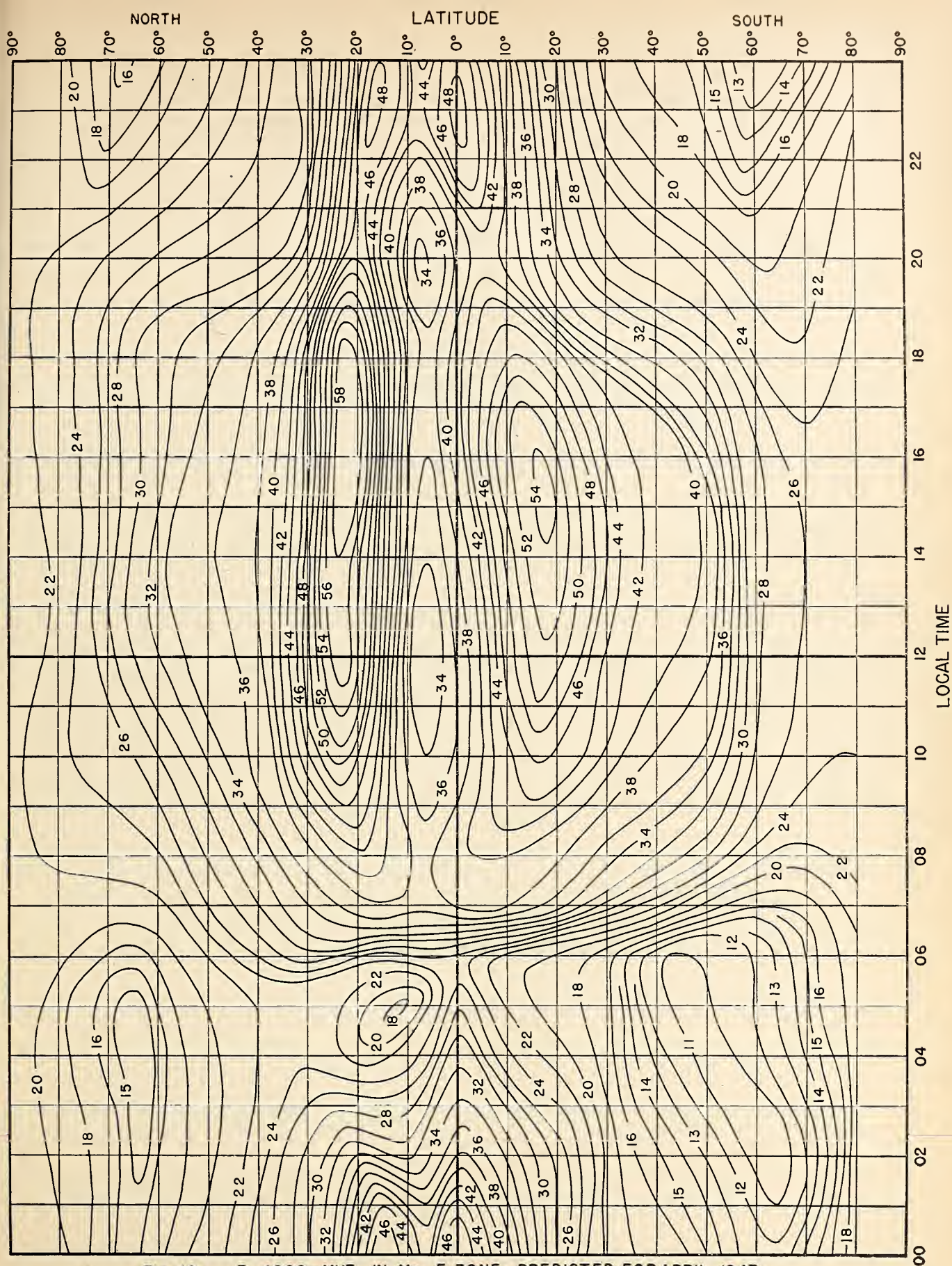


Fig. 10. F_2 4000-MUF, IN Mc, E ZONE, PREDICTED FOR APRIL 1947

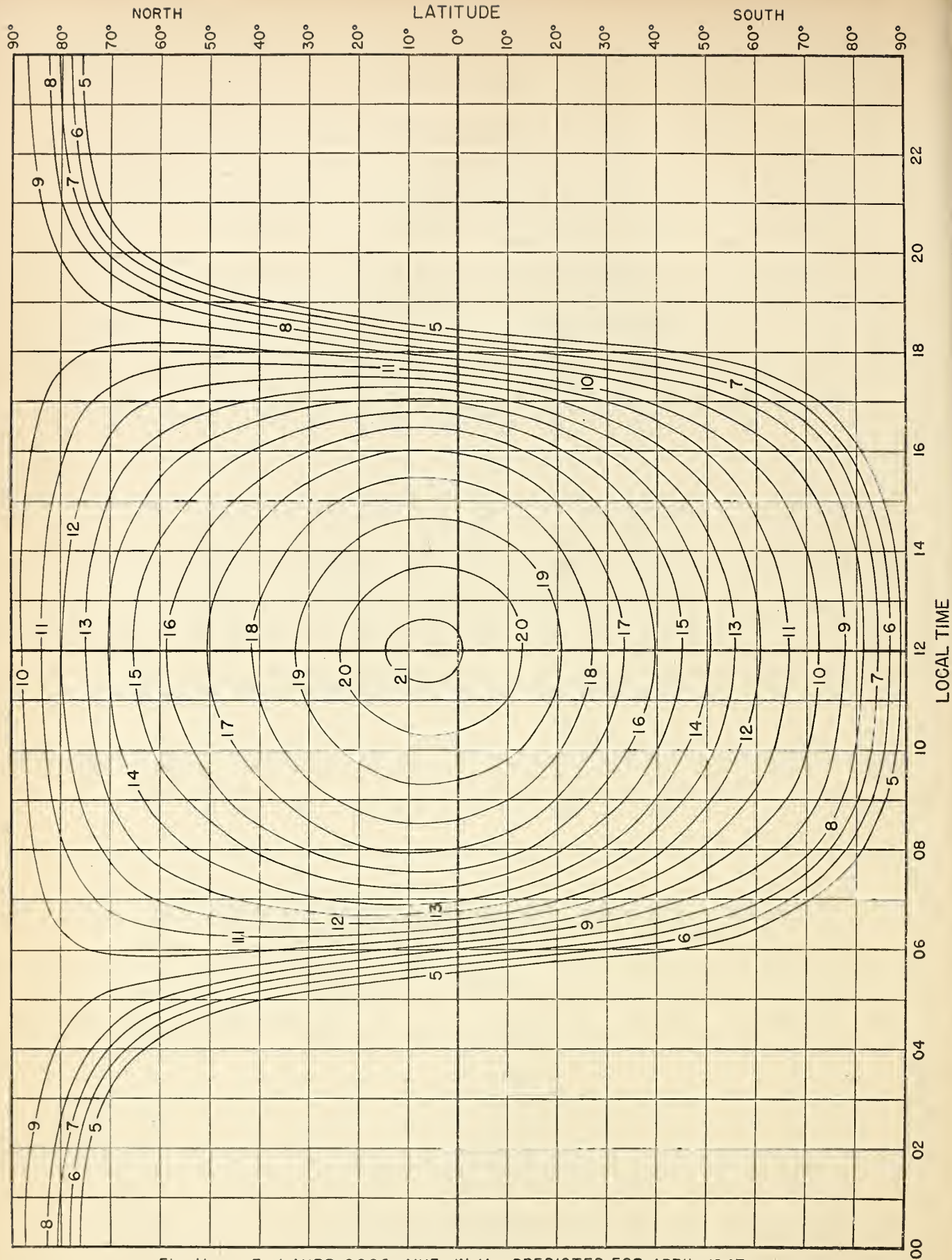


Fig. 11. E-LAYER 2000-MUF, IN Mc, PREDICTED FOR APRIL 1947

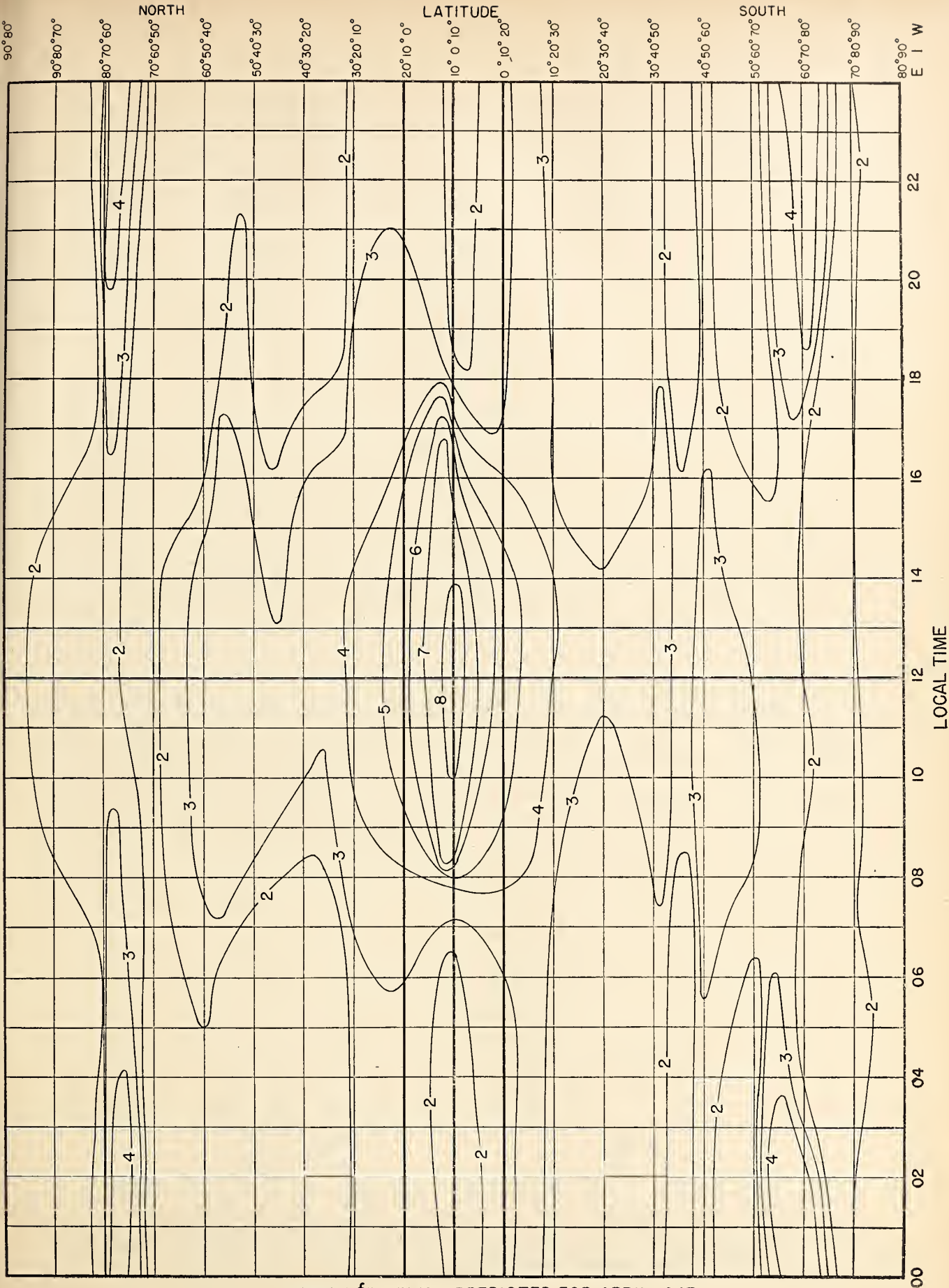


Fig. 12. MEDIAN fE_s , in Mc, PREDICTED FOR APRIL 1947

1 km = 0.62137 mile = 0.53961 naut. mi.

1 mile = 1.60935 km = 0.86836 naut. mi.

1 naut. mi. = 1.85325 km = 1.1516 mi.

FOR VALUES OF MUF GREATER
THAN 35 Mc, MULTIPLY ALL MUF AND OWF
SCALES BY 2

ZERO MUF

DISTANCE IN KM

MUF OWF

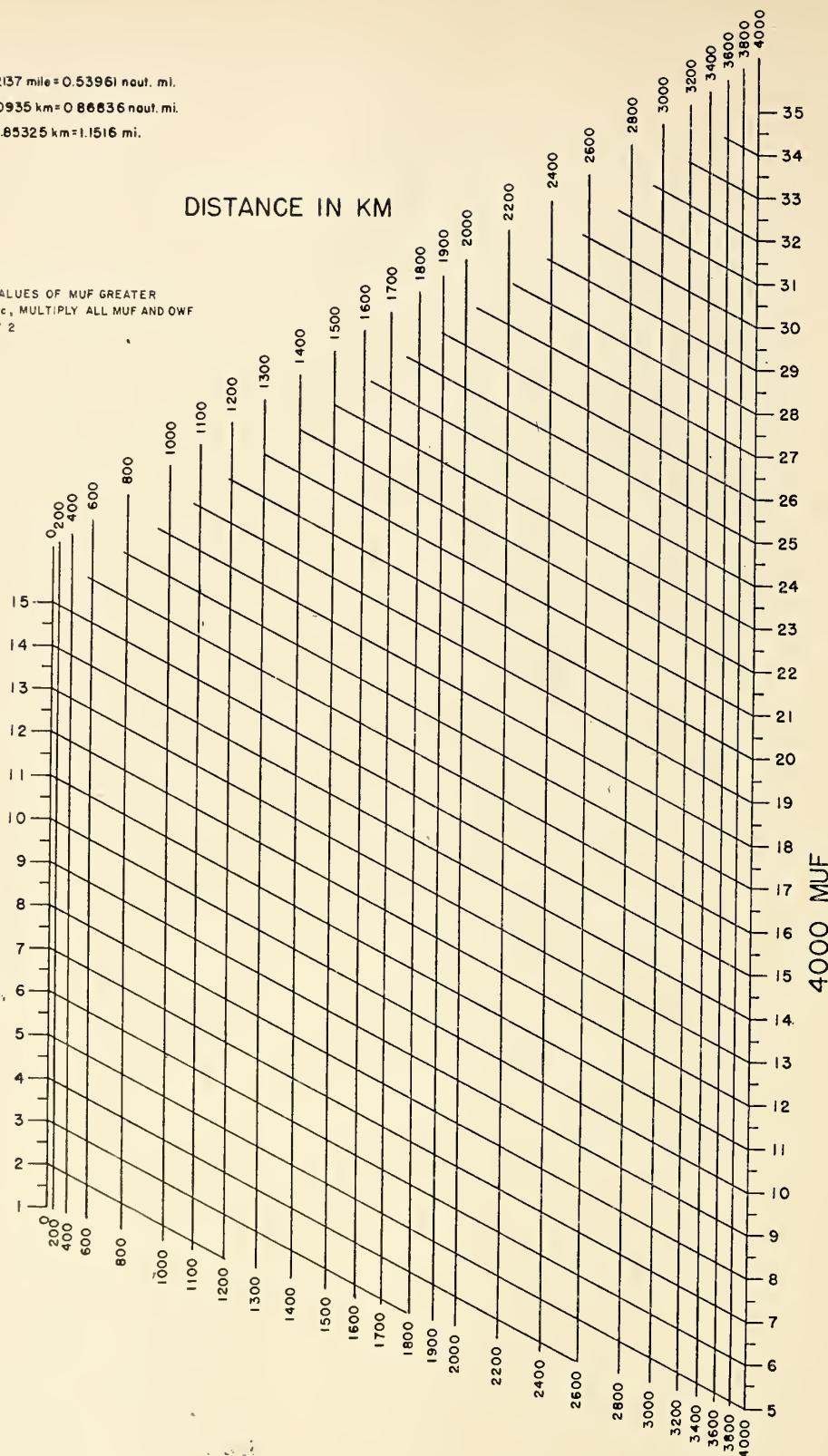


FIG.13. NOMOGRAM FOR TRANSFORMING F_2 -ZERO-MUF AND F_2 -4000-MUF TO EQUIVALENT MAXIMUM USABLE FREQUENCIES AT INTERMEDIATE TRANSMISSION DISTANCES; CONVERSION SCALE FOR OBTAINING OPTIMUM WORKING FREQUENCIES.

1 km = 0.62137 mile = 0.53961 naut. mi.
 1 mile = 1.60935 km = 0.86836 naut. mi.
 1 naut. mi. = 1.85325 km = 1.1516 mi.

E-Layer 2000-muf

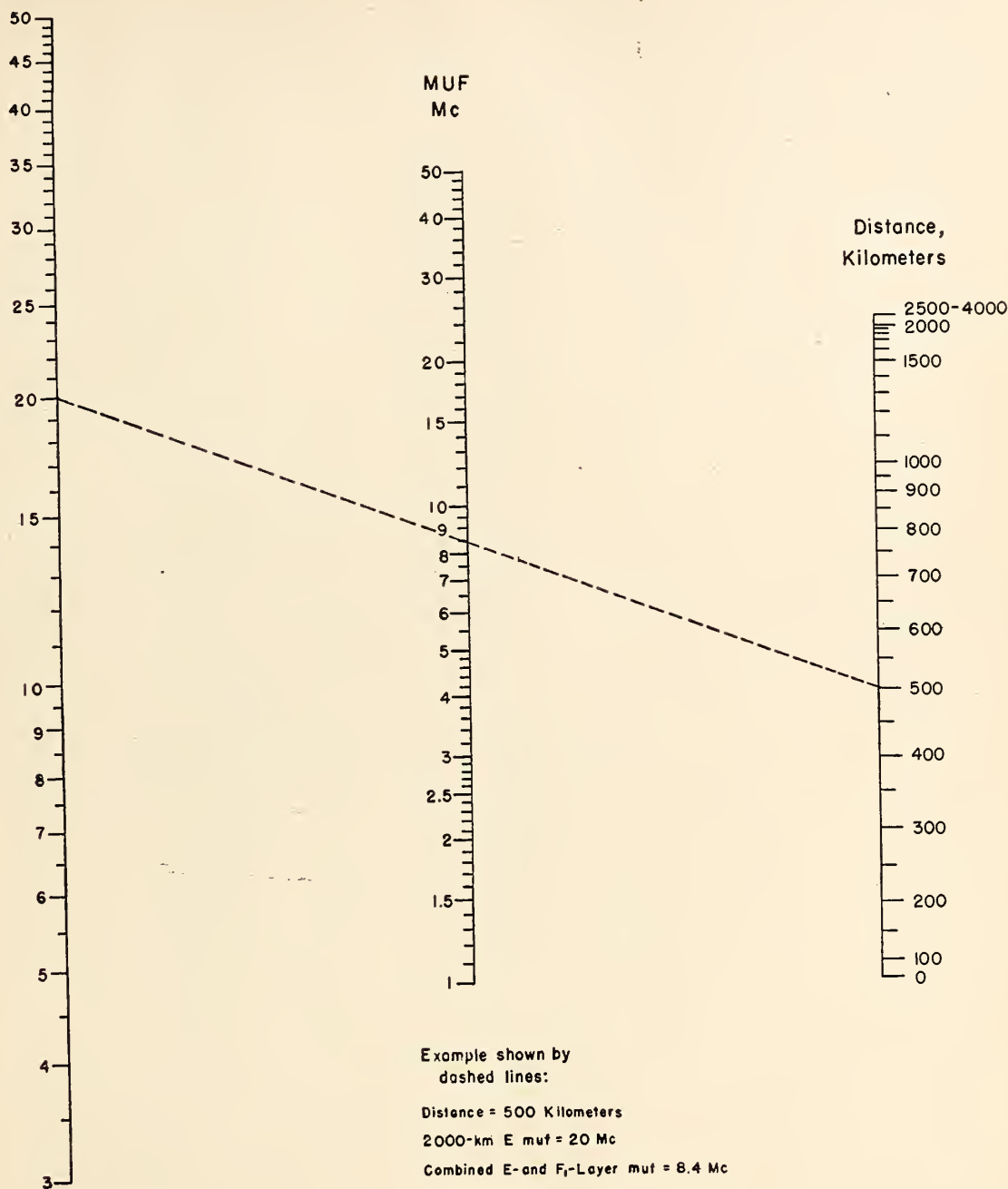


FIG.14 NOMOGRAM FOR TRANSFORMING E-LAYER 2000-MUF TO EQUIVALENT MAXIMUM USABLE FREQUENCIES AND OPTIMUM WORKING FREQUENCIES DUE TO COMBINED EFFECT OF E LAYER AND F₁ LAYER AT OTHER TRANSMISSION DISTANCES.

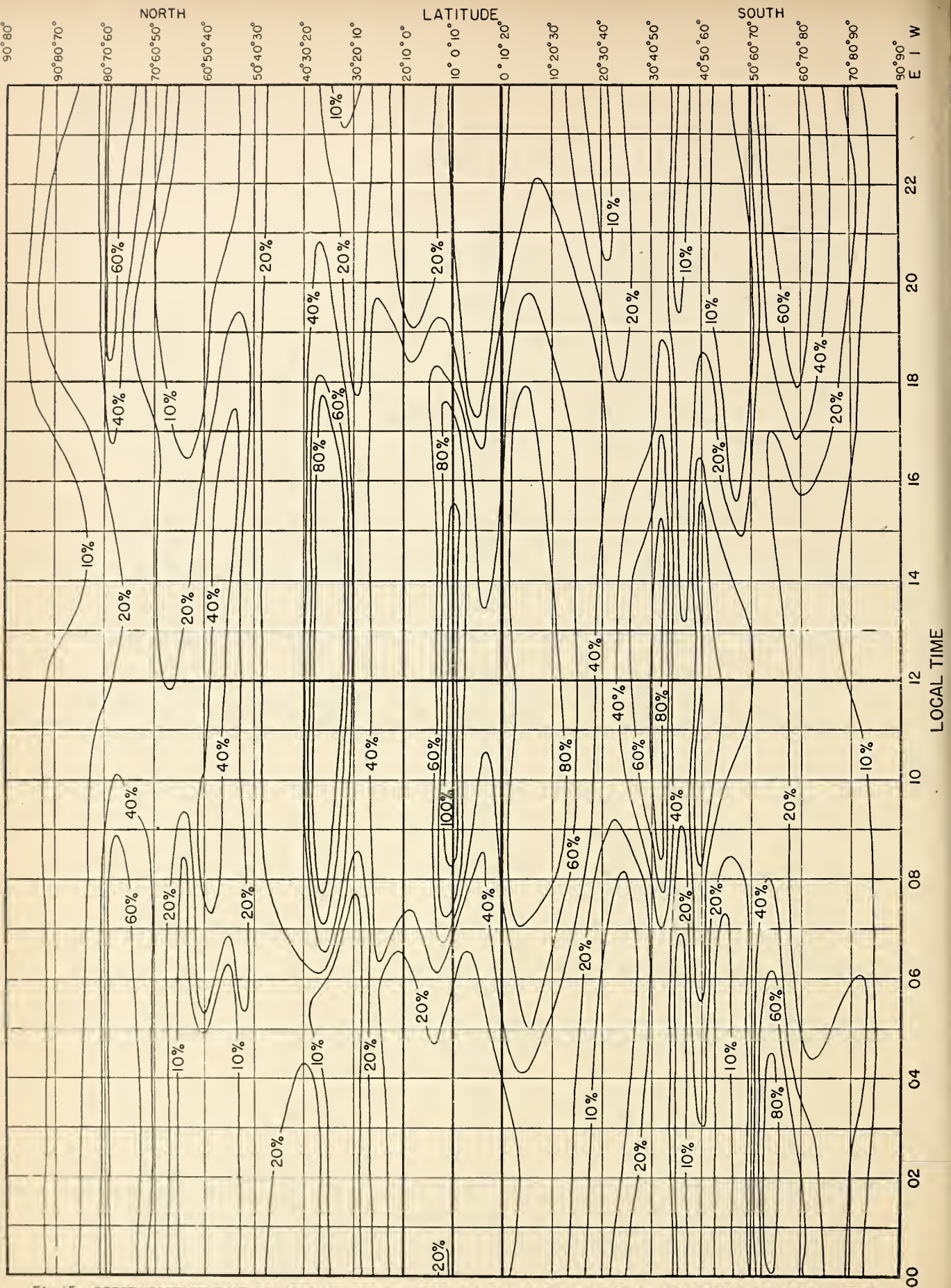
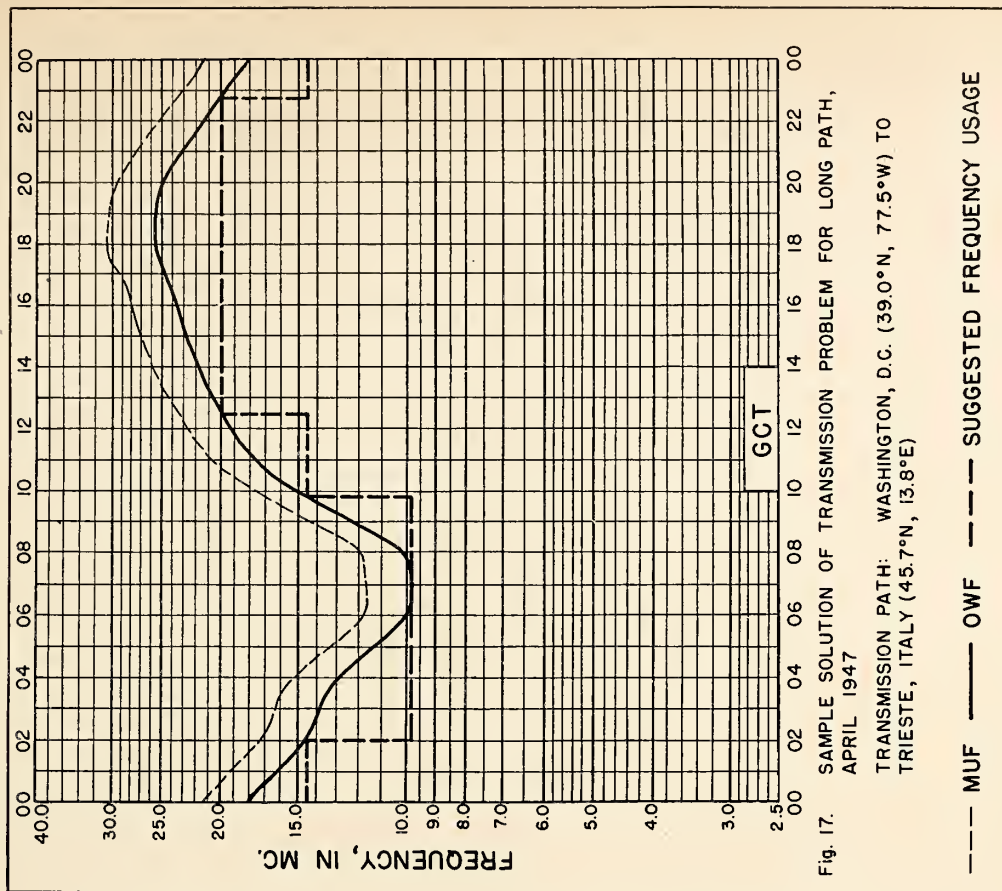
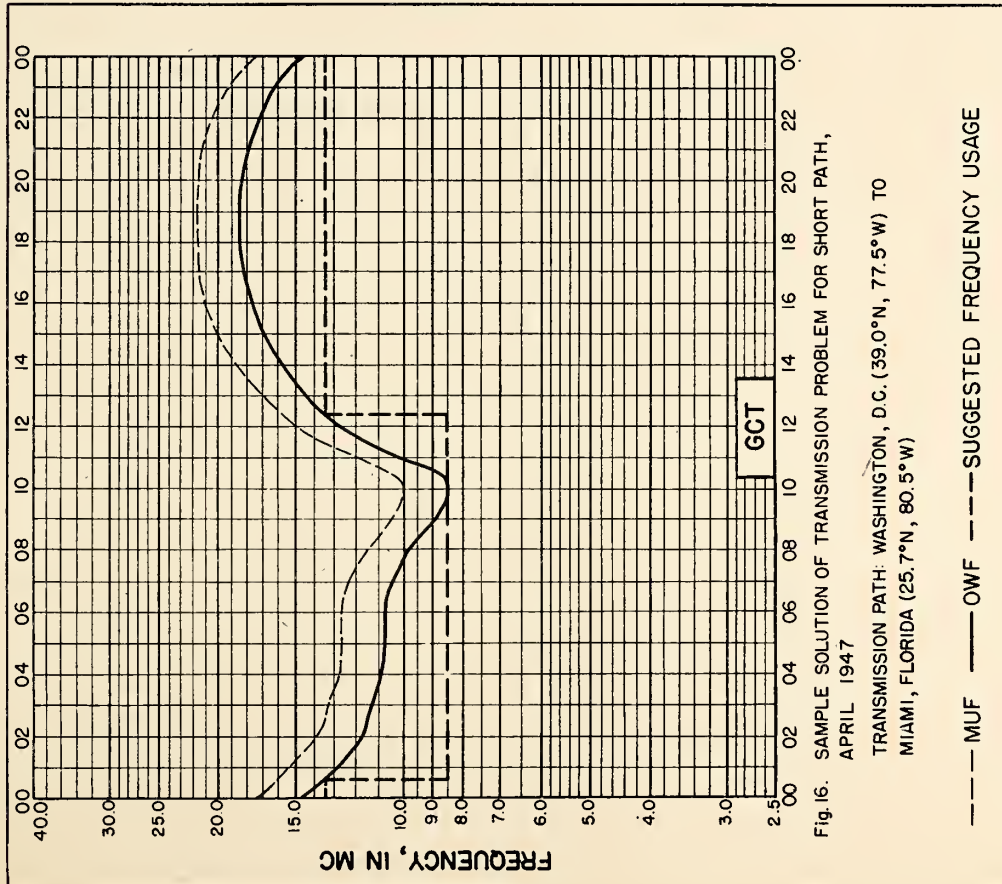
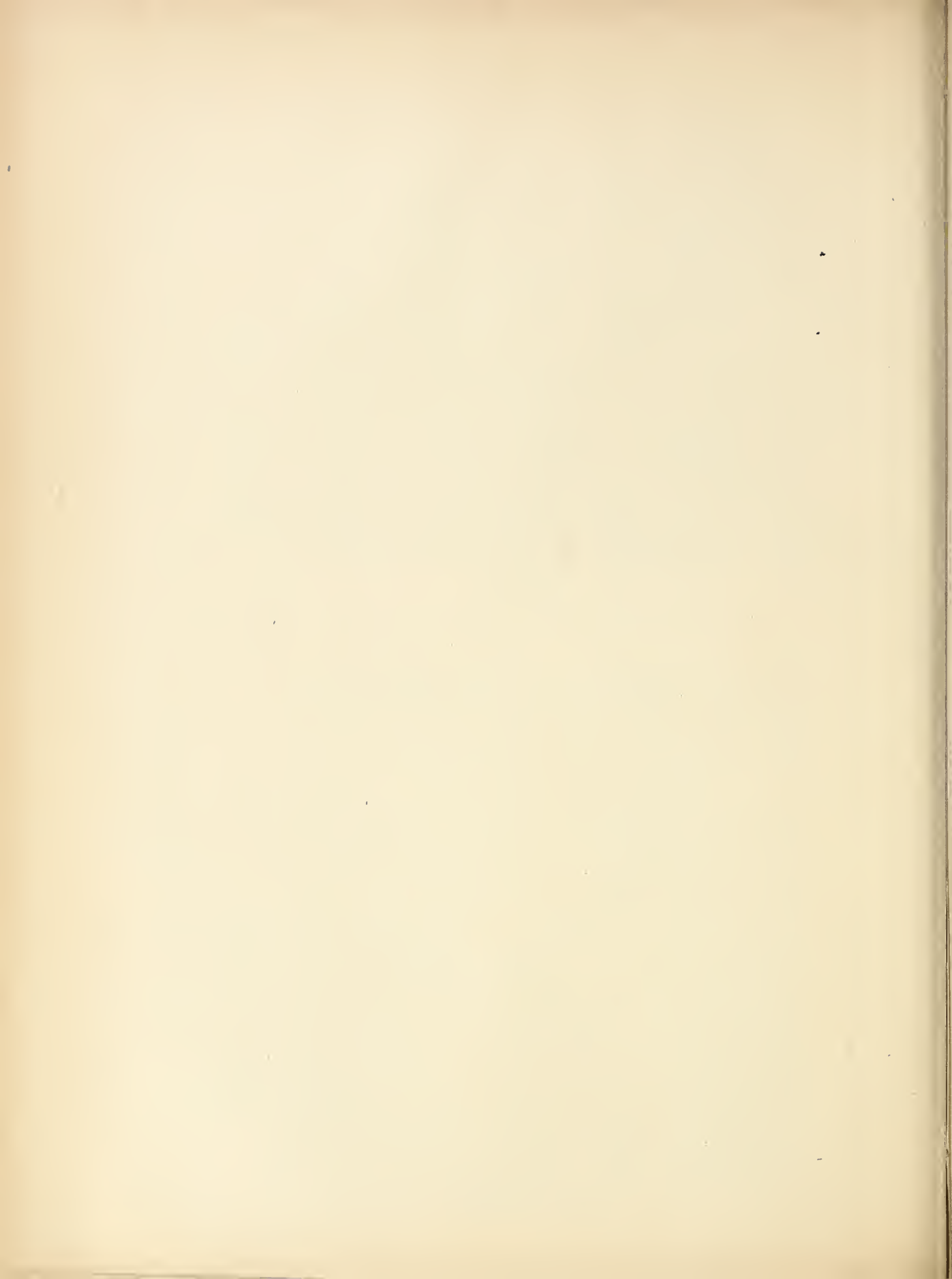


Fig 15. PERCENTAGE OF TIME OCCURRENCE FOR $E_s 2000 - MUF$ IN EXCESS OF 15 Mc, PREDICTED FOR APRIL 1947





CRPL and IRPL REPORTS

Daily:

Radio disturbance warnings, every half hour from broadcast station WWV of the National Bureau of Standards. Telephoned and telegraphed reports of ionospheric, solar, geomagnetic and radio propagation data.

Weekly:

CRPL-J. Radio Propagation Forecast (of days most likely to be disturbed, during following month).

Semimonthly:

CRPL-Ja. Semimonthly Frequency Revision Factors for CRPL Basic Radio Propagation Prediction Reports.

Monthly:

CRPL-D. Basic Radio Propagation Predictions—Three months in advance. (War Dept. TB-11-499-, monthly supplements to TM 11-499; Navy Dept. DNC-13-1 (), monthly supplements to DNC-13-1.)
CRPL-F. Ionospheric Data.

Quarterly:

*IRPL-A. Recommended Frequency Bands for Ships and Aircraft in the Atlantic and Pacific.

*IRPL-H. Frequency Guide for Operating Personnel.

Reports on Ionospheric Measurement Standards.

Reports on Microwave Measurement Standards.

Reports Issued in Past:

IRPL Radio Propagation Handbook, Part 1. (War Dept. TM 11-499; Navy Dept. DNC-13-1.)

IRPL-C61. Report of the International Radio Propagation Conference, 17 April to 5 May 1944.

IRPL-G1 through G12. Correlation of D. F. Errors With Ionospheric Conditions.

IRPL-R. Unscheduled Reports:

R4. Methods Used by IRPL for the Prediction of Ionosphere Characteristics and Maximum Usable Frequencies.

R5. Criteria for Ionospheric Storminess.

R6. Experimental Studies of Ionospheric Propagation as Applied to the Loran System.

R7. Second Report on Experimental Studies of Ionospheric Propagation as Applied to the Loran System.

R8. The Prediction of Usable Frequencies Over a Path of Short or Medium Length, Including the Effects of Es.

R9. An Automatic Instantaneous Indicator of Skip Distance and MUF.

R10. A Proposal for the Use of Rockets for the Study of the Ionosphere.

R11. A Nomographic Method for Both Prediction and Observation Correlation of Ionosphere Characteristics.

R12. Short Time Variations in Ionospheric Characteristics.

R13. Ionospheric and Radio Propagation Disturbances, October 1943 Through February 1945.

R14. A Graphical Method for Calculating Ground Reflection Coefficients.

R15. Predicted Limits for F2-layer Radio Transmission Throughout the Solar Cycle.

R16. Predicted F2-layer Frequencies Throughout the Solar Cycle, for Summer, Winter, and Equinox Season.

R17. Japanese Ionospheric Data—1943.

R18. Comparison of Geomagnetic Records and North Atlantic Radio Propagation Quality Figures—October 1943 Through May 1945.

R19. Nomographic Predictions of F2-layer Frequencies Throughout the Solar Cycle, for June.

R20. Nomographic Predictions of F2-layer Frequencies Throughout the Solar Cycle, for September.

R21. Notes on the Preparation of Skip-Distance and MUF Charts for Use by Direction-Finder Stations. (For distances out to 4000 km.)

R22. Nomographic Predictions of F2-layer Frequencies Throughout the Solar Cycle, for December.

R23. Solar-Cycle Data for Correlation With Radio Propagation Phenomena.

R24. Relations Between Band Width, Pulse Shape and Usefulness of Pulses in the Loran System.

R25. The Prediction of Solar Activity as a Basis for Predictions of Radio Propagation Phenomena.

R26. The Ionosphere as a Measure of Solar Activity.

R27. Relationships Between Radio Propagation Disturbance and Central Meridian Passage of Sunspots Grouped by Distance From Center of Disc.

R28. Nomographic Predictions of F2-layer Frequencies Throughout the Solar Cycle, for January.

R29 and 29-A. Revised Classification of Radio Subjects Used in National Bureau of Standards and First Supplement (N. B. S. Letter Circular LC-814 and Supplement, superseding Circular C385).

R30. Disturbance Rating in Values of IRPL Quality—Figure Scale From A. T. & T. Co. Transmission Disturbance Reports to Replace T. D. Figures as Reported.

R31. North Atlantic Radio Propagation Disturbances, October 1943 Through October 1945.

R32. Nomographic Predictions of F2-layer Frequencies Throughout the Solar Cycle, for February.

R33. Ionospheric Data on File at IRPL.

R34. The Interpretation of Recorded Values of fE_s .

R35. Comparison of Percentage of Total Time of Second-Multiple Es Reflections and That of fE_s in Excess of 3 Mc.

IRPL-T. Reports on Tropospheric Propagation.

T1. Radar Operation and Weather. (Superseded by JANP 101).

T2. Radar Coverage and Weather. (Superseded by JANP 102).

CRPL-T3. Tropospheric Propagation and Radio-Meteorology. (Reissue of Columbia Wave Propagation Group WPG-5.)

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